

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS,
No. 2.

SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITION
OF NEGROES IN CITIES.

REPORT OF AN INVESTIGATION UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF ATLANTA UNIVERSITY:

AND

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND CONFERENCE FOR THE
STUDY OF PROBLEMS CONCERNING NEGRO CITY LIFE,
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INTRODUCTION.

The papers presented in this report were written exclusively by colored men and women, and are based upon statistical investigations made by them under the direction of Atlanta University.

The investigation was begun by an inquiry on the part of three graduates of Atlanta University into the causes of the excessive mortality among Negroes. A conference was held on the subject at Atlanta University in May, 1896, and the facts brought out at that conference were so significant that the investigation was continued for another year along similar lines, but on a more extensive scale, and a second conference was held in May, this year. The co-operation of graduates of other institutions was invited. The present investigation, therefore, is the result of the joint efforts of graduates of Atlanta University, Fisk, Berea, Lincoln, Spelman, Howard, Meharry and other institutions for the higher education of the Negroes.

The conclusions which these men and women have reached as a result of their investigations are, in some respects, most surprising; especially their conclusions as to the effect of environment and economic conditions upon the vital energies of the race. Their conclusions were, in substance, that the excessive mortality of their people cannot be attributed in any large degree to unfavorable conditions of environment, but must be chiefly attributed to the ignorance of the masses of the people and their disregard of the laws of health and morality. The significance of this conclusion is tersely expressed by one of the writers, who says:

"This last fact, that the excessive death-rate of the colored people does not arise from diseases due to environment, is of vast importance. If poor houses, unhealthy localities, bad sewerage, and defective plumbing were responsible for their high death-rate, there would be no hope of reducing the death-rate until either the colored people

became wealthy, or philanthropic persons erected sanitary houses, or municipalities made appropriations to remove those conditions. But since the excessive death-rate is not due to these causes, there is reason for the belief that it may be reduced without regard to the present economic condition of the colored people."

The attention of the members of the conference seemed to be mainly directed to a consideration of the social questions affecting the progress of the race. The sentiment of the conference was voiced by one writer in these words:

"If we are to strike at the root of the matter, it will not be at sanitary regulation, but at social reconstruction and moral regeneration."

The solution of the problem will be found in the wise direction of the numerous charitable, religious and educational organizations of colored people already established. As a means towards that end, the University will continue the City Problem Investigation along the lines upon which it was begun, and will hold a third conference at Atlanta next May. The subject of the next conference cannot now be announced, but in accordance with the expressed wish of members of the last conference, it will be some subject dealing with the social conditions of the people.

The result of the present investigation has been, on the whole, distinctly encouraging. In the opinion of the committee having the investigation in charge, the Negro has nothing to fear from a most rigid and searching investigation into his physical and social condition, but such an investigation can be made most helpful and valuable.

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION.

[Note: The three following papers on the results of the investigation were written by the three members of the conference who individually collected the most data: Mr. Butler R. Wilson, a member of the committee who gathered data relating to one hundred families that had migrated from North Carolina to Cambridge, Mass.; Prof. Eugene Harris of Fisk University, who made an extensive investigation in Nashville; and Mr. L. M. Hershaw of Washington, D. C., who had in charge the very laborious work of analyzing the reports of the boards of health for the past fifteen years.—Ed.]

GENERAL SUMMARY.

BY MR. BUTLER R. WILSON ('81), BOSTON, MASS.

In making this investigation of the habits, morals and environment of Negroes living in cities, three things have been kept constantly in view, viz.:

- First— To obtain accurate information without regard to cherished theories or race pride;
- Second— To make the inquiry practical and helpful, and not merely for scientific results; and,
- Third— To induce the people to apply the remedies which they have in their own hands for the evils which are found to exist and which retard their progress.

The results to be gained depended entirely upon the intelligence and fitness of the investigators, who were selected with great care from the ranks of well-known colored educators, ministers, physicians, lawyers and business men, living among the people covered by the investigation. All the data were gathered by this body of trained colored leaders, and they are believed to be, perhaps, more than usually accurate because of the investigators' knowledge of the character, habits and prejudices of the people, and because of the fact that they were not hindered by the suspicions which confront the white investigator, and which seriously affect the accuracy of the answers to his questions.

The work of the investigators was entirely voluntary and was done with a willingness and industry highly gratifying.

The cities embraced in the investigation, with a single exception, are located in regions of heaviest Negro population, and are fairly representative of other cities containing large numbers of Negroes.

The data obtained were published in the May Bulletin of the U. S. Department of Labor, and cover so wide a range of useful information, that only a few things can be pointed out here.

Referring to the tables of this Bulletin, we find one noticeable fact in table 3*, namely, that the size of colored families is much smaller than is commonly supposed, the average being 4. 17 persons.

Tables 5 and 6, giving household conditions by families,—the average persons per sleeping room, and the number of rooms per family,—show that the general belief that the tenements and houses occupied by colored people are greatly over-crowded is not founded on facts. These tables do not show that any great over-crowding exists, on the whole, although for certain individual families and groups the averages are somewhat larger. It also appears that the average number of living rooms is much larger than has been thought to be the case. An average of 2. 22 persons to a sleeping room in Atlanta, 2.44 persons in Nashville, and 1. 96 persons in Cambridge, and 2. 05 persons in all the other cities covered by the investigation, is an unexpected and important showing, and reverses the idea that the number of families having but one room each for all purposes was very large and was the rule instead of the exception. Out of a total of 1,137 families investigated, only 117, or 10. 29 per cent, had but one room each for their use for all purposes.

Table 7, giving number of families and means of support, shows a large proportion of females who either support families unaided, or who contribute to the support of families.

Of the male heads only 26.7 per cent were able to support their families without assistance from other members. Of the 1,137 families 650, or 57.17 per cent, were supported wholly or in part by female heads.

In comparison with white female heads of families and those contributing to family support, there is quite a large excess on the part of colored women.

*Table 3 in appendix A. The appendixes contain selected tables from the May Bulletin of the Department of Labor.—Ed.

This table calls attention to the enforced absence of mothers from their homes, and the daily abandonment, by these mothers who are compelled to aid in earning the family support, of their young children to the evil associations, the temptations, and vicious liberty of the alleys, courts and slums.

To attempt to prove from the showing of this table that Negro men are unwilling to support their families, and that they are lazy and shiftless, would be unfair. Careful inquiry by a number of the investigators indicates very strongly that the comparatively small support given by these men to their families is not due to unwillingness, but to their inability to get work as readily and constantly as the women. At the South white men refuse to work at the bench, in the mill and at other employments with colored men, who, for this reason, are denied work, and therefore unable to earn means with which to support their families.

This fact was found to exist in the city of Cambridge, where a large per cent of the men in the hundred families investigated, in reply to an inquiry, said that they had been refused work because they were colored, and a number of them said that they were unable to follow their trades, but had to "job around" with unsteady employment for the same reason.

The women in these families find steady employment as domestic servants and laundresses, and at the South find but little competition from white women.

The investigation gives a great many data on this industrial side of the question, which want of space will not now allow us to consider.

Tables 8 and 9, giving the number and per cent of persons sick during the year, and the number and per cent of deaths during the past five years by causes, show that the diseases most fatal to the colored people are consumption and pneumonia. While the average length of time of sickness from it is short, malarial fever is shown to be one of the most prevalent diseases. Rheumatism is also shown to be quite prevalent. Both of these diseases, as well as typhoid fever and pneumonia, may, to a great extent, be kept in abeyance by the observance of hygienic rules and a proper care of the health.

In the 100 Cambridge families it was found that many of the men work in the water department, and after the day's work eat the

evening meal without changing their damp clothing, often going to sleep in their chairs for an hour or more and then going to a lodge or "society meeting," remaining not infrequently until 11 and 12 o'clock.

These tables also show that the difference between the death-rate of the white and colored people from diarrhœa, diptheria, scarlet fever, malarial fever and typhoid fever, all diseases chiefly affected by environment, is very slight.*

Table 10, giving sickness by sanitary condition of houses, shows that while sanitary conditions have a very important bearing, they are not important enough to account for the difference of per cent in the death-rate between the white and colored people.

Great caution must be observed in making deductions from this table. While it is intended to show the bearing of sanitary conditions on the health of the community, the results obtained are not conclusive. It would be erroneous, for instance, to attribute to bad sanitary conditions the increased amount of sickness in families, and leave out of consideration such factors as irregular habits, indifference to healthy living quarters and the intimate relation between poverty and ill health.

By reference to the table it will be seen that the number of persons sick in Atlanta was 163 out of a total of 577, or 28.25 per cent, where the light and air were good; and that out of 367 persons living where the light and air were bad, 120, or 32.70 per cent, were sick, a difference of only 15 per cent between houses with good and bad conditions as to light and air.

One hundred and twenty-eight persons living in houses with good light and air lost 5,819 days by sickness, or an average of 45.46 days each; while 102, or 26 persons less, lost, under bad conditions of light and air, only 4,361 days, or an average of 42.75 days each, a difference of 6 per cent, the average days of sickness being more in houses with good light and air than in those where the light and air were bad.

This table further shows that out of 537 persons living in Atlanta in houses with good ventilation, 153, or 28.49 per cent, were sick during the year, losing, for the 124 reporting, 5,927 days, or an average of 47.80 days each; while out of 427 persons living in houses with

*The tables bearing upon diseases most prevalent will be particularly discussed in the paper following.—Ed.

bad ventilation, 154, or 36 per cent, were sick during the year, 133 of whom lost 6,050 days, or an average of 45.49 days each, a difference of only 26 per cent between the per cent of persons sick where ventilation was good and where it was bad, the average number of days again being greater for those under good conditions than for those under bad.

Table XV,* giving general description of houses, shows that a large proportion of the houses occupied by the 1,137 families were wooden structures, detached and located in neighborhoods of fair character. Of the 1,031 houses but 43 had bath-rooms, and 183 had water-closets, 95 of which were in the Cambridge houses. In Atlanta and Cambridge the houses with bad outside sanitary conditions predominated. In all the other cities the houses with good outside sanitary conditions predominated, the latter being greatly in excess for the entire territory covered.

This paper may be summarized as follows:

First—All the data in the investigation have been gathered by intelligent colored men and women living in the communities covered. These investigators were not hindered by obstacles which make it difficult for a white man to get accurate information of the family life, habits and character of the colored people. These colored investigators cannot be charged with prejudice and designs against the interests of the colored people. For these reasons, their work is thought to be more than usually accurate and reliable.

Second—Over-crowding in tenements and houses occupied by colored people does not exist to any great extent, and is less than was supposed.

Third—In comparison with white women, an excess of colored women support their families entirely, or contribute to the family support, by occupations which take them much of their time from home, to the neglect of their children.

Fourth—Environment and the sanitary condition of houses are not chiefly responsible for the excessive mortality among colored people.

Fifth—Ignorance and disregard of the laws of health are responsible for a large proportion of this excessive mortality.

*Not in appendix, but in May Bulletin of Department of Labor.—Ed.

SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL PROGRESS:

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE REPORTS OF THE BOARDS OF
HEALTH OF ATLANTA, BALTIMORE, CHARLESTON,
MEMPHIS AND RICHMOND.

BY MR. L. M. HERSHAW ('86), WASHINGTON, D. C.

The study of vital statistics is one of the most important subjects that can engage the attention. The death-rate, taken in connection with the birth-rate, determines the natural increase or decrease of population, the growth or decline of a people, and the strength of nations. Dr. William Farr, late Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages in England, states the whole matter in the following language: "There is a relation betwixt death, health, and energy of body and mind. There is a relation betwixt death, birth and marriage. There is a relation betwixt death and national primacy; numbers turn the tide in the struggle of population, and the most mortal die out. There is a relation betwixt the forms of death and moral excellence or infamy."

It has been known for a number of years to health officers and students of vital statistics that the death-rate of the colored people was larger than that of the white people; that the colored people were dying in larger numbers in proportion to the colored population than the white people were in proportion to the white population. Of late years these facts have become known to most intelligent persons, and great interest attaches to the degree of the excess of the colored death-rate, and to the causes of it.

This paper will deal with the vital statistics of the cities of Atlanta, Ga., Baltimore, Md., Charleston, S. C., Memphis, Tenn., and Richmond, Va. Each of these cities contains a large colored population, surrounded by social, economic and moral conditions such as exist in other cities where colored people are congregated in considerable numbers, if Philadelphia is excepted. The cities selected are, therefore, thoroughly representative for the purpose in hand, and the conditions

found to prevail in them may be fairly presumed to prevail in the other cities having a large population of colored people.

The average annual death-rate per 1,000 of the living population in these five cities for the fifteen years from 1881 to 1895 was 20.74 for the whites and 36.13 for the colored, showing a percentage of excess for the colored of 73.8.

The average annual death-rate per 1,000 by race for each of the five cities under consideration for the past fourteen or fifteen years is as follows :

	White.	Colored.	Per cent excess of colored.
Atlanta (1882-95).....	18.50.....	34.71.....	87.6
Baltimore (1880-94).....	20.69.....	32.71.....	58.1
Charleston (1881-94).....	23.19.....	44.08.....	90
Memphis (1882-95).....	20.58.....	31.15.....	51.3
Richmond (1881-95).....	20.73.....	38.02.....	83.4

An inspection of the table just given shows that the highest death-rate among the colored is in Charleston (which is also true as to the whites), and that the lowest death-rate among the colored is in Memphis, the lowest among the whites being in Atlanta. Comparing the white and colored death-rates, it is to be seen that the greatest excess of colored over white is in Charleston, where it reaches 90 per cent; the excess in Atlanta being 87.6 per cent, and that in Richmond 83.4 per cent. The least excess is found in Memphis, which is 51.3 per cent, Baltimore having 58.1 per cent. These figures seem to justify the conclusion that the worst physical conditions among the colored people are to be found in Charleston, Atlanta and Richmond, and the best in Memphis and Baltimore.

Having found the average death-rates of the two races in these five cities for the past fourteen or fifteen years, and having compared them with each other, and drawn a conclusion as to the relative physical conditions of the colored populations in the cities under consideration, it will conduce to a better understanding and a fuller knowledge of these conditions to divide the fourteen or fifteen years which this investigation covers into three periods as nearly equal as possible. By pursuing this method we shall be able, in a measure, to decide whether the physical condition of the colored is better or worse in 1894 or 1895 than in 1880 or 1881.

FIRST PERIOD.				SECOND PERIOD.			THIRD PERIOD.		
CITIES.	White.	Colored.	Per cent excess of colored.	White.	Colored.	Per cent excess of colored.	White.	Colored.	Per cent excess of colored.
Atlanta.....	18.22	37.96	108.4	19.25	33.41	73.5	18.03	32.76	81.6
Baltimore.....	22.60	36.15	59.9	19.46	30.52	56.8	20.01	31.47	57.2
Charleston...	25.40	44.08	73.5	22.30	46.74	109.6	21.88	41.43	89.3
Memphis.....	26.08	43.01	64.9	21.49	29.35	36.5	14.17	21.11	48.9
Richmond....	22.42	40.34	79.9	21.37	38.83	81.7	18.42	34.91	89.5

The tabular statement contains, in addition to the average annual death-rate, the percentage of the excess of the colored death-rate. Lest these percentages of excess mislead somebody, it is necessary to explain that, in comparing the three periods, they merely show whether or not the colored death-rate has decreased as rapidly as the white death-rate, and not the actual increase or decrease of the colored death-rate. To illustrate: Comparing the second and third periods in Richmond, it is to be seen that the percentage of excess for the second period is 81.7 per cent, and for the third period 89.5 per cent. Without looking at the matter carefully the conclusion is likely to be drawn that the colored death-rate is greater for the third period than for the second, when, as a matter of fact, it is less, the rates being 38.83* for the second, and 34.91 for the third.

An inspection of the above table shows that there has been a constant decrease in the colored death-rate from period to period in Atlanta, Memphis and Richmond.

In Atlanta the colored death-rate for the first period is 37.96, for the second 33.41, and for the third 32.76; in Memphis, 43.01 for the first period, 29.35 for the second, and 21.11 for the third; and in Richmond, 40.34 for the first period, 38.83 for the second, and 34.91 for the third. While Baltimore and Charleston do not show the constant decrease from period to period noted in the other cities, they do show a lower death-rate for the third period than for the first; the death-rates

*NOTE.—The death-rate is generally expressed in terms of one thousand. The phrase "rate of 38.83" means that there were thirty-eight and eighty-three one-hundredths deaths per thousand of population. For brevity, the words "per thousand" are omitted.—ED.

in Baltimore being 36.15 for the first period, 30.52 for the second, and 31.47 for the third; and those in Charleston, 44.08 for the first period, 46.74 for the second, and 41.43 for the third. Memphis shows the greatest improvement, the average death-rate at the end of the third period being 50.9 per cent lower than at the end of the first, and Charleston shows the least improvement, 6 per cent. In Atlanta the improvement is 13.9 per cent, in Richmond, 13.4 per cent, and in Baltimore, 12.9 per cent.

Of the five cities with which this paper deals, but two have a registration of births—Baltimore and Charleston.* Richmond had such a registration, but it was discontinued some years ago. The registrations of Baltimore and Charleston are admittedly incomplete. No view of the vital statistics of a community is complete without a knowledge of its birth-rate. The birth-rate is closely related to the death-rate. The natural increase of population depends upon the excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate. It would be highly interesting to know what the birth-rate of the colored population in the five cities under consideration is. Is it as great as the death-rate? Is it greater than the death-rate? These questions cannot be answered satisfactorily because the health reports do not supply the information. The United States Census of 1890 gives the colored birth-rate of the United States as 29.07 per thousand, but owing to the incompleteness of the records of births by the municipal and state authorities, these figures are not reliable, and are probably much too small. Four European countries have birth-rates which exceed the colored death-rate in the cities that we have under consideration. In view of the well-known fecundity of the Negro race, it is fair to infer that his birth-rate is certainly as high as that of the Italian, the German, the Austrian, or the Hungarian. If this is so, then the death-rate in these cities has not reached the point where population begins to decrease. It is well-nigh useless to pursue this branch of the subject further, because of the lack of data.

Having established the fact that the average colored death-rate for the past fourteen or fifteen years in the five cities is 73.8 per cent in excess of the white death-rate in the same cities for the same period, and having shown, by dividing these years into three equal periods and

* See for Baltimore table f, appendix B.—Ed.

comparing the rates of previous with succeeding periods, that the colored death-rate shows an improvement over fifteen years ago, it remains to set forth the causes of this excessive mortality.

The principal causes of the excessive mortality of the colored people are the same in all the cities ; therefore, it will serve our purpose to know the average death-rate of the three cities, Charleston, Memphis and Richmond, combined, for a period of fifteen years, for certain classes of diseases, and to give in full the same facts concerning Atlanta. The table which follows shows for Charleston, Memphis and Richmond, combined, the average death-rate per 10,000, by specified causes, for a period of fifteen years, from 1881 to 1895 :

	White.	Colored.	Per cent excess of colored.
Consumption and Pneumonia.....	32.76*	75.48.....	130.4
Typhoid, Malarial and Scarlet Fe- vers, Diarrhea and Diphtheria }	20.16.....	26.22.....	30
Cholera Infantum, Convul- sions and Still-born }	14.87.....	39.43.....	165.1
Serofula and Syphilis.....	.81.....	4.72.....	482.7

It is to be seen from the table above that for all classes of diseases the colored death-rate exceeds the white. The greatest excess is found under serofula and syphilis, where it is 482.7 per cent in excess of the white death-rate. The next greatest excess is due to infantile diseases,—cholera infantum, convulsions and still-born,—the excess being 165.1 per cent. The third greatest excess is due to pulmonary diseases, and is seen to be 130.4 per cent. We see also that the least disparity between the white and the colored death-rate is found under the group of diseases most affected by environment, including typhoid and malarial fevers and diphtheria, where the excess is only 30 per cent. As to syphilis and serofula, it is to be observed that the number of deaths is small. The white death-rate during fifteen years in Charleston, Memphis and Richmond has been less than one per 10,000 of the population, while the colored was somewhat less than five. The per cent of the excess of the colored over the white is, however, startling, and furnishes much food for reflection as to the morals of the colored people.

The two principal causes of the excessive mortality of the colored people are pulmonary diseases,—consumption and pneumonia,—and

* These death-rates for specified causes are per *ten* thousand.—Ed.

infant mortality. The excessive prevalence of consumption and pneumonia among colored people is brought out very plainly in the foregoing table, where the excess in these cities is shown to be 130.4 per cent.

The following table containing the total average annual number of deaths, and the average annual number of deaths of children under five years of age, with distinction of race, will serve to show the extent of the infant mortality among colored people :

ATLANTA, GA.

	Total average annual number of deaths.		Average annual number of deaths under 5 years of age.			
	White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	Per cent of white.	Per cent of colored.
1882-85.....	470	751	172	313	38.7	41.6
1886-90.....	644	845	224	348	34.7	41.1
1891-95.....	804	1086	257	386	31.9	35.5

CHARLESTON, S. C.

1885-89.....	525	1394	148	558	28.0	40.0
1890-94.....	529	1316	141	518	26.4	39.3

MEMPHIS, TENN.

1886-90.....	678	742	180	263	26.5	35.4
1891-95.....	619	741	145	232	23.4	31.1

There is an enormous waste of child-life among both races, not only in the cities under consideration, but in all cities. But from the data at hand the conclusion is justified that the mortality among colored children is not alarmingly in excess of the mortality among white children, unless it be for children under two years of age. The figures which we have presented on this subject show that the mortality among children of both races has decreased constantly since 1881 in Atlanta, Charleston and Memphis.

Of the diseases which are excessively prevalent among colored people, the most important, and the one which should be the occasion of the greatest alarm, is consumption. We have seen already that consumption and pneumonia are among the causes of excessive mortality of the colored people, the excess per cent of Charleston, Memphis and Richmond being 130.4.

The table following shows the rate per 10,000 of deaths from consumption in all the cities investigated :

ATLANTA, GA.

	White.	Colored.	Per ct. excess of colored.
1882-85.....	18.40.....	50.20.....	172.83
1886-90.....	18.83.....	45.88.....	143.65
1891-95.....	16.82.....	43.48.....	158.50

BALTIMORE, MD.

1886.....	25.65.....	58.65.....	128.65
1887.....	22.23.....	55.42.....	149.30
1891.....	20.00.....	46.32.....	131.60
1892.....	20.10.....	49.41.....	145.82

CHARLESTON, S. C.

1881-84.....	27.52.....	72.20.....	162.35
1885-89.....	20.05.....	68.08.....	239.55
1890-94.....	17.71.....	57.66.....	225.58

MEMPHIS, TENN.

1882-85.....	34.25.....	65.35.....	90.80
1886-90.....	24.29.....	50.30.....	107.08
1891-95.....	15.90.....	37.78.....	137.61

RICHMOND, VA.

1881-85.....	25.57.....	54.93.....	114.82
1886-90.....	21.27.....	41.63.....	95.72
1891-95.....	18.54.....	34.74.....	87.38

It is to be seen that in all of the cities the death-rate for consumption is high among the colored people, the lowest rate being 34.74 per 10,000 in Richmond, and the highest, 72.20, in Charleston. The greatest disparity between the white and the colored death-rate for this cause is also in Charleston, where the excess per cent of the colored is as high as 239.5. The important fact must not be lost sight of that the death-rate from this cause has constantly decreased in all the cities except Charleston, and in Charleston the death-rate for the period 1890-94 is lower than for the period 1881-84. There is reason, however, for great concern and anxiety as to the excessive prevalence of this disease among the colored people. Unless checked and reduced to a normal state, it may, in the course of years, be a deciding factor in the ultimate fate of the race. The prevalence of tubercular and scrofulous diseases, consumption, scrofula, syphilis and leprosy, has caused the weaker races of the earth to succumb before the rising tide of the Christian civilization. The Carib of the West Indies, the noble red man of these shores, the natives of the Sandwich Islands, and the aborigines of Australia and New Zealand have all disappeared

or been greatly reduced in numbers as the result of the ravages of these diseases. It should be an object of first importance, then, to get control of these diseases before they reach the point where control is impossible.

It will be of interest to know somewhat in detail the physical condition of the population in Atlanta for the fourteen years from 1882 to 1895, and the tables which follow set forth quite fully this fact.

DEATH-RATE PER 1,000, ATLANTA, GA.

Period.	White.	Colored.	Per ct. excess of colored.
1882-85.....	18.21.....	37.96.....	108.4
1886-90.....	19.25.....	33.41.....	73.5
1891-95.....	18.03.....	32.76.....	81.6

It is seen that the death-rate of the colored population, though greatly in excess of that of the white, has constantly decreased, the average death-rate per 1,000 for the first period being 37.96, for the second 33.41, and for the third 32.76. Relatively, as compared with the whites, the death rate of the colored shows much improvement. Though the percentage of excess of colored for the third period is greater than that for the second, the percentage for both of these periods shows a marked decrease from that of the first period.

The following tables show for three periods, 1882 to 1885, 1886 to 1890, and 1891 to 1895, the average annual death-rate per 10,000, Atlanta, Ga., by specified causes.

CONSUMPTION AND PNEUMONIA.

Period.	White.	Colored.	Per ct. excess of colored.
1882-85.....	27.43.....	76.89.....	180.3
1886-90.....	30.13.....	72.14.....	139.4
1891-95.....	28.48.....	75.75.....	165.9

CHOLERA INFANTUM AND STILL-BIRTHS.

1886-90.....	26.78.....	56.09.....	109.4
1891-95.....	24.99.....	53.86.....	115.5

TYPHOID, SCARLET AND MALARIAL FEVERS, AND DIPHTHERIA.

1882-85.....	11.58.....	19.31.....	66.7
1886-90.....	14.58.....	17.17.....	17.7
1891-95.....	10.72.....	12.48.....	16.4

OTHER CAUSES.

1882-85.....	a143.15.....	a283.44.....	a98.0
1886-90.....	121.05.....	188.67.....	55.8
1891-95.....	116.15.....	185.50.....	59.7

a Including deaths from cholera infantum and still-births.

It is observed that in all these groups of causes the colored death-rate has decreased from period to period, except for consumption and pneumonia, where the death-rate for the period 1891-95 is greater than for the period 1886-90, though slightly less than for the period 1882-85.

The statistics presented in the various tables which this paper contains, viewed candidly and dispassionately, shows results favorable to the physical improvement of the colored race. If the mortality rate had remained stationary for a period of fifteen years, it would have been a lasting evidence of the physical strength and endurance of the race. But we have shown that the rate has decreased in that period, and that, too, as is well known, in the face of hard, exacting and oppressive social and economic conditions. When all of the facts in the colored man's case are taken into consideration, the wonder is, not that the death-rate is as high as it is, but that it is not even higher. The history of weak and inferior races shows that they begin to decrease in number after one generation's contact with Anglo-Saxon civilization. The native population of the Sandwich Islands a hundred years ago was estimated to be 100,000. The latest census taken on the Islands shows the native population to be 35,000. We do not witness this decay and decrease in numbers in the colored race anywhere in the Western Hemisphere.

In studying any phase of Negro life in the United States, the fact must be kept constantly in view that the Negro has been subjected to degrading and blasting slavery for more than two centuries. While slavery did its victims a great wrong in depriving them of the fruits of their toil, it did them a greater wrong in denying them opportunities for moral and mental improvement. Those who sit in judgment upon the Negro and study his frailties and shortcomings must not forget these previous conditions.

To recapitulate, it has been shown:

First—That the colored death-rate exceeds the white, the excess averaging for five cities, during a period of fifteen years, 73.8 per cent.

Second—That the death-rate of the colored population in five cities is lower for the period 1890-95 than for the period 1881-85.

Third—That the principal causes of the excessive mortality among the colored people of five cities are pulmonary diseases and infant mortality.

Fourth—That the least disparity between the white and colored death-rates is for those diseases due to unwholesome sanitary conditions; typhoid, malarial and scarlet fevers, diphtheria and diarrhea.

This last fact, that the excessive death-rate of the colored people does not arise from diseases due to environment, is of vast importance. If poor houses, unhealthy localities, bad sewerage and defective plumbing were responsible for their high death-rate, there would be no hope of reducing the death-rate until either the colored people became wealthy, or philanthropic persons erected sanitary houses, or municipalities made appropriations to remove these conditions. But since the excessive death-rate is not due to these causes, there is reason for the belief that it may be reduced without regard to the present economic conditions of the colored people.

NOTE.—For further data compiled by Mr. Hershaw, see appendix B.—Ed.

THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE RACE; WHETHER DEPENDENT UPON SOCIAL CONDITIONS OR ENVIRONMENT.

BY PROF. EUGENE HARRIS, FISK UNIVERSITY, NASHVILLE, TENN.

The social conditions of the American Negro are two-fold; those which he makes for himself, and those which the white people make for him. The latter class cannot affect the physical status of the Negro except in a very indirect and unimportant way. Separate apartments in public conveniences, such as hotels, theatres, or railroad trains, social ostracism, exclusion from political preferment and the spoils of office, the suppression of his ballot, and the other discriminations which are made against the black man, have at least no immediate bearing on his health, vitality, or longevity. The Negro may eat and wear what he pleases, as much as he pleases, and as often as he pleases. The provision shops and dry goods stores do not discriminate against him in the matter of food and wearing apparel. After a hard day's work he may carouse at night just as late as he pleases. There is not a black law upon our statute books regulating his private habits, or imposing upon him unsanitary surroundings, or restricting him to deleterious occupations, or forcing him to immoderate indulgences.

It is true that in public conveniences the Negro must take separate apartments; but the air in them is just as invigorating, the water is just as healthful and pure, and the food is just as nourishing as in the apartments for the whites. Regular bathing will throw off dead matter through the skin, and control of the appetites will contribute largely to health in Negro quarters as well as anywhere else. The laws of health have no regard for artificial social barriers. They know no color line. Civilly, socially, and politically, the Negro of this country is under many cruel and unjust restrictions; but he is at perfect liberty to be abstemious or intemperate, chaste or licentious, cleanly

or filthy. In the struggle for recognition and preferment he is at a great disadvantage; but in the struggle for *life*, apart from those impediments for which he himself is responsible, he has almost, if not altogether, an equal chance with the whites.

It is true that if the colored people in our larger towns are bent upon living near the center of the city, they cannot rent or buy property, except in the less desirable or abandoned parts. But it is not necessity, it is only convenience that leads them to live over stables, in dark, damp cellars, and on back alleys, in the midst of stench and putrefaction. They can, if they would, go to the suburbs, where they can get better accommodations for less money. I have been in families in Nashville ranging from seven to ten, living on a back alley, with a rivulet of filth running before the door of the one room in which they bathed and ate and slept and died. Two miles further out all of these families might have secured for the same money shanties of two and three rooms, with purer air and water, and had a garden spot besides. Among the colored people, convenience to the heart of the city often overrides considerations of health, and that the white people offer them hot-beds of disease for homes is no excuse for their taking them. It is better to live in the suburbs than to die in the city. The Negro is induced, but not forced, to accept the bad accommodations of down-town life. Apart from this apparent exception in the matter of rented houses, no race discrimination affects in the least the Negro's physical condition; and it is for this very reason that I am hopeful of a change for the better in the vital statistics of our people. If the large death-rate, the small birth-rate, the susceptibility to disease, and the low vitality of the race were due to causes outside of our control, I could see nothing before us but the "blackness of darkness forever." But because the colored people themselves are responsible for this sad state of affairs, it is to be expected that time and education will correct it.

The conclusions which I shall draw in this paper are based largely upon my study of the problem in Nashville.

In the first place, then, the excess of colored deaths over white is due almost entirely to constitutional diseases and infant mortality. According to health statistics, the constitutional diseases which are mainly responsible for our large death-rate are pulmonary consumption, scrofula,

and syphilis, all of which are alike in being tuberculous. A large number of the colored convicts in our state's prison at Nashville are consumptives or syphilitics. Out of 92 deaths in a certain territory in Nashville, 19 deaths, or over 20 per cent, were due to consumption. The other 73 deaths were due to 35 different causes. In the recent Atlanta investigation, according to the mortality report of Cambridge, Mass., consumption was the cause of 15 per cent of the deaths.

DEATHS FROM CONSUMPTION IN NASHVILLE FOR THE PERIOD 1893-95.

	1893	1894	1895	
White.....	124	91	82	A reduction of nearly 34 per cent.
Colored.....	177	159	218	An increase of over 23 per cent.

Alarming as are the facts set forth in the preceding table, they are not the whole truth. They would be occasion for serious concern if the races were numerically equal; but when we remember that the colored people of Nashville are only three-fifths as numerous as the whites, it is all the more startling. For the year 1895, when 82 white deaths from consumption occurred in the city of Nashville, there ought to have been only 49 colored, whereas there really were 218, or nearly four and one-half times as many as there ought to have been. It is an occasion of serious alarm when 37 per cent of the whole people are responsible for 72 per cent of the deaths from consumption.

Deaths among colored people from pulmonary diseases seem to be on the increase throughout the South. During the period 1882-85, the excess of colored deaths from consumption for the city of Memphis was 90.80 per cent. For the period 1891-95, the excess had arisen to over 137 per cent. For the period of 1886-90, the excess of colored deaths from consumption and pneumonia for the city of Atlanta was 139 per cent. For the period 1891-95, it had arisen to nearly 166 per cent.*

From these facts it would appear that pulmonary consumption is the "destroying angel" among us, and yet I am told that before the war this dread disease was virtually unknown among the slaves. Fortunately Charleston, S. C., kept even before the war the mortality statistics of the colored people, and, consequently, we are able to ascertain with some accuracy how their death-rate from consumption before

* See table d, appendix B.—Ed.

the war compares with their death-rate afterwards. What are the facts in the case? From 1822 to 1848, the colored death-rate from consumption was a trifle less than the white. Since 1865 it has been considerably greater, and is still increasing. According to F. L. Hoffman, the white mortality from that cause has decreased since the war 134 per hundred thousand. The colored mortality has increased over 234 per hundred thousand.*

The question arises, How do we account for this change? Is it because the Negro is inherently more susceptible to pulmonary diseases, or is it because of his changed environment,—his different social conditions? If his tendency to consumption is due to his inherent susceptibility, what was it that held it in check until after the war? It seems that this fact alone is sufficient to fix the responsibility upon the conditions which have arisen since emancipation. Mr. F. L. Hoffman claims that the Negro's lungs weigh four ounces less than a white man's, and that though his normal chest measure is greater, his lung capacity is less; and that here we have a cause for the Negro's tendency to consumption which no environment, however favorable, can affect. Even if this be a fact, it is hard to see how it began to operate as a cause of consumption only since the war.

Let us turn for the present to another cause of the excessive mortality among us; namely, the increased prevalence of scrofula and venereal diseases. For the period 1882–85, the colored death-rate in Memphis from scrofula and syphilis was 205.8 per cent in excess of that among the whites; but from 1891 down to the present time, the excess has been 298 per cent. For the period 1893–95, there were in the city of Nashville 8 white deaths from scrofula and syphilis, and 35 colored. In proportion to the population, there ought to have been only 5. Of course allowance must be made for the fact that, on account of the scandal and disgrace, white physicians are reluctant to report white deaths from these causes; whereas such motives rarely, if ever, influence them in reporting colored deaths.

According to the May Bulletin of the Department of Labor, out of 1,090 colored people canvassed this year in the city of Nashville, 18

* See "Race Traits and Tendencies of the American Negro," by F. L. Hoffman.
—Ed.

were suffering from scrofula and syphilis.* One whose attention has not been called to the matter has no conception of the prevalence of these diseases among the Negroes of Nashville. I have looked for it in both races as I have walked the streets of my city, and to come across the loathsome disease in the colored passers-by is not an uncommon occurrence. This state of affairs can be accounted for when I tell you that there is probably no city in this country where prostitution among colored people is more rampant and brazen, and where abandoned colored women are more numerous or more public in their shameful traffic.

In the families canvassed by me this year, among 50 sufferers from rheumatism, 8 were so badly crippled as to be bed-ridden invalids. When we consider the fact that some forms of rheumatism are syphilitic in their origin, and that in these same families there were 18 suffering from scrofula and syphilis, it would appear that venereal poisoning was responsible for a considerable share of the rheumatism.

There is one obstacle to the race's reproducing itself that has some connection with venereal diseases, and hence I speak of it now. I refer to the enormous amount of still births and infant mortality, prevalent everywhere among colored people. For the period of 1893-95, the still and the premature births in the city of Nashville were 272 for the white, and 385 for the colored; or, in proportion to the population, $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as many as there ought to have been. This relative state of affairs obtains in Memphis and Atlanta, and in all the large cities of the South. From the health reports of all our large Southern cities we learn that a considerable amount of our infant mortality is due to inanition, infantile debility, and infantile marasmus. Now what is the case in regard to these diseases? The fact is that they are not diseases at all, but merely the names of symptoms due to enfeebled constitutions and congenital diseases, inherited from parents suffering from the effects of sexual immorality and debauchery. Translated into common speech, they are nothing more than infant starvation, infant weakness, and infant wasting away, the cause of which is that the infants' parents before them have not given them a fighting chance for life. According to Hoffman, over 50 per cent of the Negro chil-

* See table 8, appendix A.—Ed.

dren born in Richmond, Va., die before they are one year old.

The number of still and premature births among us is a matter of great alarm, not only because it seriously interferes with the numerical increase of the race, but because it involves the fecundity, the health, and even the moral character of large numbers of our women. The support of the family often falls very heavily upon our poor washer-women; and since they find it hard to get the husks to feed and the rags to clothe their already large number of little folks, living in one room like stock, rather than to add to their burden, they resort to crime. An official on the Nashville Board of Health, who is also proprietor of a drug store, tells me that he is astonished at the number of colored women who apply at his store for drugs with a criminal purpose in view.

The 16 Atlanta groups in the recent investigation showed that the female heads of families are considerably in excess of the male, and out of 324 families 31 were wholly supported by the mother, and 205 were supported by the mother altogether or in part.* In such social conditions as these, where the burden of bread-winning is borne largely, and often altogether, by the mother of the household, it is not surprising that poor, laboring women who are ignorant of its ruinous effects upon both health and character, should resort to prenatal infanticide.

The average family for the eighteen cities covered by our recent investigation numbers only 4.1, which means that in these eighteen cities the race is doing barely more than reproducing itself.† The large colored families of a few decades ago are becoming more and more scarce. I know a grandmother who was the proud mother of over a dozen children; the daughter could boast of nine; and not one of several granddaughters, though married for a number of years, is the mother of more than one child. This family is but an illustration of many others just like it. Such facts go to show that the Negro is no longer the "prolific animal" that he once was termed. The race, like the women of whom Paul once wrote to Timothy, must be "saved through child-bearing."

I take it that the excess of infant mortality from cholera infantum and convulsions means nothing more than that the Negro mothers do

* See table 7, appendix A.—Ed.

† See table 3, appendix A.—Ed.

not know so well how to feed and care for their offspring. They need instruction in infant dietetics and baby culture.

I have now covered the ground to which our excessive death rate is mainly due: namely, pulmonary diseases, especially consumption and pneumonia, scrofula, venereal diseases, and infant mortality. If we eliminate these diseases, our excessive death rate will be a thing of the past.

Let us now inquire, What is there in the Negro's social condition that is responsible for the prevalence of these diseases, and the consequent mortality? In the first place then, be it known by all men that we to-day in this conference assembled are not the enemies of our people because we tell them the truth. We shall know the truth, and the truth shall make us free not only from the bondage of sin, but from vicious social conditions and consequent physical death. Sanitary regulations and the social reconstruction of Israel formed a large part of Moses' religious duty, and why may it not of ours?

While I do not depreciate sanitary regulations, and a knowledge of hygienic laws, I am convinced that the *sine qua non* of a change for the better in the Negro's physical condition is a higher social morality. I do not believe that his poverty or his relation to the white people presents any real impediment to his health and physical development. Without going into the reasons for it, it is well known that the poor laboring classes often enjoy better health, are freer from disease, have larger families, and live longer lives than the rich.

I am convinced that for the causes of the black man's low vitality, his susceptibility to disease, and his enormous death-rate we must look to those social conditions which he creates for himself. What are they? I have already referred to the social causes of our excessive infant mortality, namely, the frequency with which the partial or the entire maintenance of the household devolves upon the mother; and especially the impaired chance for life which a debauched and immoral parentage bequeaths to childhood. The infants in their graves will rise up in judgment against this evil and adulterous generation and condemn it.

The constitutional diseases which are responsible for our unusual mortality are often traceable to enfeebled constitutions broken down by sexual immoralities. This is frequently the source of even pulmo-

nary consumption, which disease is to-day the black man's scourge.

According to Hoffman, over 25 per cent of the Negro children born in Washington City are admittedly illegitimate. According to a writer quoted in "Black America," "In one county of Mississippi there were during 12 months 300 marriage licenses taken out in the county clerk's office for white people. According to the proportion of population there should have been in the same time 1,200 or more for Negroes. There were actually taken out by colored people just three." James Anthony Froude asserts that 70 per cent of the Negroes in the West Indies are born in illegitimacy. Mr. Smeeton claims that "in spite of the increase of education, there has been no decrease of this social cancer." My attention has been called to a resort in Nashville within less than two blocks of the public square where a large number of abandoned women and profligate men often congregate in the underground basement, which is lighted and ventilated only through the pavement grating; and there in debauchery and carousal they make the night hideous until almost morning. What are they sowing but disease, and what can they reap but death?

It is true that much of the moral laxity which exists among us to-day arose out of slavery. It is due to a system which whipped women, which dispensed with the institution of marriage, which separated wives from their husbands and assigned them to other men, which ruthlessly destroyed female virtue, and which made helpless women the abject tools of their masters. This is the correct explanation of our social status to-day, but to explain it is not to excuse it. It is no longer our misfortune as it was before the war: it is our sin, the wages of which is our excessive number of deaths. Always and everywhere, moral leprosy means physical death. Wherever the colored people are guilty of the immoralities of which James Anthony Froude and W. L. Clowes of the *London Times* accuse them, if they continue in them they will be destroyed by them root and branch. Rome was destroyed because the empire had no mothers, and Babylon was blotted out because she was the "mother of harlots."

A few years ago I said in a sermon at Fisk University that wherever the Anglo-Saxon comes into contact with an inferior race, the inferior race invariably goes to the wall. I called attention to the fact that in spite of humanitarian and philanthropic efforts, the printing press, the

steam engine and the electric motor in the hands of the Anglo-Saxon were exterminating the inferior races more rapidly and more surely than shot, and shell, and bayonet. I mentioned a number of races that have perished not because of destructive wars and pestilence, but because they were unable to live in the environment of a nineteenth century civilization; races whose destruction was not due to a persecution that came to them from without, but to a lack of moral stamina within; races that perished in spite of the humanitarian and philanthropic efforts that were put forth to save them.

To that utterance let me now add this thought: that where shot, and shell, and bayonet, and the printing press and the steam engine, and the electric motor have slain their thousands; licentious men, unchaste women, and impure homes have slain their tens of thousands: and I speak the words of soberness and truth when I say that if the charges of sexual immoralities brought against us are true, unless there be wrought a social revolution among us, the handwriting of our destruction even now may be seen on the wall. The history of nations teaches us that neither war, nor famine, nor pestilence exterminates them so completely and rapidly as do sexual vices.

If the cause of our excessive death-rate be, in its ultimate analysis, moral rather than sanitary, then this fact ought to appear not only in our vital, but in our criminal statistics as well. Prof. Starr, of Chicago University, claims that in the State of Pennsylvania, where there is little opportunity to assert that the courts are prejudiced against colored criminals, though the Negroes form only 2 per cent of the population, yet they furnish 16 per cent of the male prisoners, and 34 per cent of the female. The race has such great privileges in Chicago and it is dealt with so fairly and justly that the colored people themselves have denominated it the "Negroes' Heaven;" and yet, according to Prof. Starr, while the Negroes form only $1\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the population of Chicago, they furnish 10 per cent of the arrests. I am convinced that the immorality which accounts for these criminal conditions is also responsible for the race's physical status; and if we are to strike at the root of the matter, it will not be at sanitary regulations, but at social reconstruction and moral regeneration.

Note: We regret being unable to print the whole of Prof. Harris' valuable paper.—Ed.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE.

MINUTES.

The second Atlanta University Conference on Problems of Negro City Life convened in the Ware Memorial Chapel on Tuesday, May 25, 1897, at 8 p.m.

President Horace Bumstead, of Atlanta University, opened the conference as presiding officer; after which it was voted that George A. Towns ('94) and George F. Smith ('97) be made recording secretaries.

A letter was then read from His Excellency Gov. W. Y. Atkinson of Georgia, in which he expressed regret for his inability to deliver the address of welcome. President Bumstead then delivered the opening address.

The general purpose of the meeting Tuesday night was to set forth clearly the facts as to the physical and sanitary condition of Negroes in cities, as brought out by the investigation. In accordance with this purpose three carefully prepared papers were presented: the first a "General Summary," by Butler R. Wilson, Esq., of Boston, Mass.; the second entitled "Social and Physical Progress: a Comparative Analysis of the Reports of the Boards of Health of Atlanta, Baltimore, Charleston, Memphis, and Richmond," by Mr. L. M. Hershaw of Washington, D. C.; the third entitled "The Physical Condition of the Race, whether Dependent upon Social Conditions or Environment," by Prof. Eugene Harris of Fisk University.

Bishop L. H. Holsey, D.D., who was on the program and present, did not speak because of the lateness of the hour and his physical indisposition.

Butler R. Wilson, Esq., then introduced certain resolutions, which were referred to a committee on resolutions, consisting of Butler R. Wilson, Esq., of Boston, Mass.; Prof. Eugene Harris of Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. Dr. W. G. Alexander of Atlanta; Rev. J. E. Smith of Chattanooga, Tenn.; and Miss Lucy C. Laney of Augusta.

The meeting was then adjourned.

On Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock there were two simultaneous meetings of the conference. That for men was held in the Prayer Meeting Room, and had as its general subject: "Consumption; its Causes, and Means to Prevent it."

The presiding officer was Prof. Wm. H. Crogman ('76), of Clark University, who made suitable introductory remarks. Papers were then read as follows: "Ventilation, Exercise and Physical Development," by H. R. Butler, M.D., of Atlanta; "Care of the Teeth in its Relation to Health," by J. R. Porter, D.D.S., of Atlanta; "Causes of Consumption, and Practical Methods of Preventing it," by A. J. Love, M.D., of Chattanooga, Tenn.; "A Social Study of 1,000 Atlanta Homes," by Prof. F. A. Updyke of the Atlanta Baptist College, read in his absence by Pres. George Sale of that institution. A paper was also read by Dr. A. M. Brown of Birmingham, Ala., in place of the one that should have been read by Dr. R. F. Boyd of Nashville, Tenn., who telegraphed regret at his inability to attend on account of sickness.

This was followed by an animated general discussion, participated in by Butler R. Wilson, Esq., Rev. J. E. Smith, Mr. L. M. Hershaw, Rev. H. H. Proctor of Atlanta, Dr. H. R. Butler, Rev. Dr. W. G. Alexander, Prof. W. B. Matthews of Atlanta, Rev. Dr. W. J. White of Augusta, Prof. Eugene Harris, Rev. William Flagg of Atlanta and Prof. W. H. Crogman.

A committee, of which Prof. W. H. Crogman was chairman, was chosen to prepare resolutions to be offered at the evening meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

The meeting for women, held at the same hour, in Ware Memorial Chapel, had as its general subject: "Infant Mortality; its Causes, and Means to Check it." After a preliminary explanation by Butler R. Wilson, Esq., a suitable introductory address was delivered by Miss Lucy C. Laney, of Augusta, who presided over the meeting. Papers were then read as follows: "Friendly Visiting," by Mrs. Minnie Wright Price of South Atlanta; "Parents' Associations," by Mrs. Dinah Watts Pace of Covington; "Mothers' Meetings," by Mrs. Georgia Swift King of Atlanta; "Need of Day Nurseries," by Mrs. Seleua Sloan Butler of Atlanta; "Need of Kindergartens," by Mrs. Rosa Morehead Bass of Atlanta.

The reading of these papers was followed by an animated discussion, participated in by Miss Lucy C. Laney, Mrs. Adella Hunt Logan, Mrs. Georgia Swift King, Mrs. David T. Howard of Atlanta, Mrs. Thos. N. Chase of Atlanta, Mrs. Dr. Murray of Gammon Theological Seminary, and others.

A committee, of which Mrs. Dinah Watts Pace was chairman, was appointed to draft suitable resolutions for presentation at the evening meeting; after which the meeting adjourned.

The meeting Wednesday night convened in Ware Memorial Chapel at 8 o'clock and was presided over by President Bunstead. Prayer was offered by Rev. Calvin Lane of Marietta. A paper was then read by Mrs. Adella Hunt Logan of Tuskegee, Ala., on "Prenatal and Hereditary Influences." Rev. Joseph E. Smith followed with a paper on the "Care of Neglected Children." The resolutions prepared by the committee appointed at the men's section meeting were then presented by Prof. Wm. H. Crogman and adopted by the conference.*

Rev. H. H. Proctor then spoke upon the "Need of Friendly Visiting," and Miss Lucy C. Laney upon the "Care of Children and Methods of Preventing Infant Mortality." The resolutions prepared by the committee appointed at the women's section meeting were then presented by Mrs. Dinah Watts Pace, and adopted by the conference.*

At this point Rev. J. E. Smith spoke concerning the nursery movement in Chattanooga, Tenn. Prof. Wm. E. Holmes, of the Atlanta Baptist College, spoke of the work of the Sociological Club of Atlanta. Mr. L. M. Hershaw reported concerning the Graduate Club in Washington, D. C.

* For these resolutions see page 32

Butler R. Wilson, Esq., then read the following letter from Mr. George G. Bradford, of Boston, to President Bumstead :

"It is with great regret that I hereby tender my resignation as corresponding secretary of the conference. I need not assure you that only urgent necessity compels me to give up a work in which I have taken so deep an interest."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, upon the receipt of this letter :

"Whereas, Mr. George G. Bradford, of Boston, a trustee of the Atlanta University, has been untiring in his efforts to make permanent the movement to obtain exact information concerning the social, physical and moral condition of the colored people living in cities ;

"Resolved: That this conference hereby tender him the thanks of the colored people for his splendid work and instruct the secretaries of the conference to send him a copy of these resolutions."

It was then voted that an executive committee of five be appointed at some future time to make plans for a subsequent investigation, to decide the subjects to be investigated, to appoint a recorder, and to name a corresponding secretary.

Butler R. Wilson, Esq., then read the resolutions presented by the committee on Tuesday night. There was considerable discussion as to the phraseology of the first resolution, participated in by Butler R. Wilson, Esq., Rev. J. E. Smith, Prof. Eugene Harris, Dr. A. J. Love, Rev. Dr. W. J. White, Mr. L. M. Hershaw, and Prof. T. N. Chase. The resolutions as a whole were unanimously adopted.*

After remarks by Mrs. Georgia Swift King concerning a partially successful attempt by the W. C. T. U. to establish a day nursery in Atlanta, and further remarks by Mrs. Dinah Watts Pace, the conference adjourned.

GEORGE A. TOWNS, } Recording
GEORGE F. SMITH, } Secretaries.

* For these resolutions see page 33.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE.

METHODS OF PREVENTING CONSUMPTION.

REPORTED FROM THE MEN'S SECTION MEETING.

Whereas, the chief modes of infection are:

First—By inhaling dry and pulverized expectoration;

Second—By using spoons, cups, and other articles which have not been properly cleaned after using by tuberculous patients;

Third—By kissing;

Fourth—From intermarriage of tuberculous individuals.

Therefore, *Resolved*:

First—That sputum must be destroyed and must not be allowed to become dry, and that handkerchiefs used by tuberculous persons must be destroyed;

Second—That the floors and walls of rooms occupied by tuberculous persons must be thoroughly disinfected before being used by other persons;

Third—That carpets, curtains and bedding must be exposed to superheated steam under high pressure;

Fourth—That all living rooms must be thoroughly aired daily, kept thoroughly clean, and ventilated night and day.

MOTHERS' MEETINGS, DAY NURSERIES, FAMILY SUPPORT
AND KINDERGARTENS.

REPORTED FROM THE WOMEN'S SECTION MEETING.

Whereas, a race cannot rise higher than its women, and the home is the great school for the molding of character, and mothers are the most important factors in these schools;

Therefore, *Resolved*: That a new impetus be given to the establishing and holding of mothers' meetings whenever and wherever practicable, for the instruction, development and uplifting of the mother-

hood of our race along practical, moral and spiritual lines.

Whereas, a very large percentage of our women, being thrown upon their own resources for a livelihood for themselves and families, are compelled daily to leave, uncared for, their little ones ;

Therefore, *Resolved*: That individuals and organizations interest themselves in the immediate establishment, on a small scale at first, of day nurseries for the care and culture of these dear little ones.

Whereas, investigation shows that a very large majority of our men are supported by their wives, and since such a condition of affairs must of necessity hinder wives and mothers from performing their higher duties, such as the careful training of families along moral and spiritual lines, and since man in failing to care for his family proves himself to be unfit to be called husband or father ;

Therefore, *Resolved*: That in order to arouse and educate such men to a full appreciation of their duties men's meetings be held whenever and wherever practicable, and that our ministers of the Gospel preach special sermons along all practical lines ; that by these two agencies the men of to-day may be aroused to a keener sense of their responsibility in this matter of family support.

Whereas, the need of kindergarten work is clearly seen for the starting of the little ones into proper channels of training, and since work in this department has been of the greatest help to teachers who lead the young minds from this into higher branches, and since the child-life in the school-room should be of vital interest to parents ;

Therefore, *Resolved*: That efforts be put forth for the establishment and maintenance of such departments of educational work.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That it appears from the result of the investigation :—

First—That the excessive mortality among Negroes is not due mainly to environment ;

Second—That the excessive mortality among Negroes is largely due either to their ignorance or to their disregard of the laws of health and morality ;

Third—That the excessive mortality and the apparent increase of

immorality among the Negroes is chiefly due to neglect of home and family life, the chief cause of which is the extent to which the mothers are obliged to go out to work ;

Fourth—That the failure of the men to entirely support their families with their earnings has a most serious effect upon the social, physical and economic progress of the race ;

Fifth—That finally, it appears that the Negro must reform himself, and that he is not dependent upon charity or municipal regulations, but has the means in his own hands.

Resolved, That the following recommendations are made:—

First—That the attention of members of the conference during the coming year be concentrated on reforms in the family life of the Negro;

Second—That greater care and attention should be given to the home training of children, and also of young men and young women, and that parents' associations and mothers' meetings should be formed for that purpose;

Third—That day nurseries should be provided for the care of infants and young children in the enforced absence of the parents;

Fourth—That friendly visiting among the poor should be more general and more systematic, and that friendly visitors should hold weekly or monthly conferences under the direction of those who are making a special study of social problems.

ADDRESSES, PAPERS, AND LETTERS.

ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT BUMSTEAD.

It has been our hope, and for a time our expectation, that the address of welcome would be given to-night by His Excellency, Governor Atkinson, but circumstances have prevented his attendance, and we must content ourselves with the expression of his interest and good wishes which he has so kindly conveyed in his letter of regret.

It seems, therefore, to fall to me to speak the word of welcome, and I do it with great heartiness. I welcome you to the interesting discussions which this conference has in store for us. I congratulate you, too, on the painstaking and highly successful work which you have carried on since our meeting a year ago, and which will form the basis of discussion at the present meeting. The results of your investigations conducted last fall and winter, as embodied in the statistical tables of the May Bulletin of the Department of Labor at Washington, have impressed me deeply. I am impressed with the enormous amount of careful, patient, discriminating, and conscientious labor which those tables represent, and I am impressed anew with the significance and importance of statistical science.

What is the significance of the statistical work in which this conference is now engaged? You and I have sometimes seen a man who attracted our attention because of his striking physical health. His figure was erect and finely proportioned, his muscles well developed, his step elastic, his eye clear, his complexion of the kind that reveals healthy blood coursing through every artery and vein. This man, however, may once have been a weak and sickly student in college. How did this transformation take place? It was the work of the director of physical culture in that college. He took the student in hand, made careful measurements of the different parts of his body, tested the action of his muscles and of his lungs and heart and other vital organs, found out where the weak points in his body were, and noted accurately the degree of weakness or of insufficient development. Then he presented certain exercises for the student to practice to secure a more vigorous or a more symmetrical development, a certain diet to follow, possibly certain medicines or tonics to take. The

transformation followed, and its success all depended on the accuracy with which the real condition of that young student's physical organism was ascertained by the director of physical culture.

We are dealing with a much larger and vastly more important organism than that of any individual—the great social organism of which we all form a part, an organism of wonderful complexity, with a life peculiar to itself, and just as much subject to the laws of health and disease as the body of any individual can possibly be. It is the prime object of all sociological investigation to find out the weak spots in the social organism and to seek to remedy them. This is the work in which we are engaged, in common with all other students of social science. We are not, indeed, undertaking to do the whole of it, but only a part. We have wisely chosen for the present to confine ourselves to that constituent part of the social organism which is made up of a single race or class of people, and to those nerve-centers of modern life which are found in the cities and larger towns. But it is none the less for the benefit of the larger whole that we carry on this more limited work. And for the furtherance of the great end before us all—the perfect health of the social organism, or the body politic, as it is sometimes called, I am confident that your investigations of the past winter will prove a substantial contribution.

Before we pass to the discussion of the statistics to which I have referred, it is perhaps important that I should remind you of the two things which constitute the chief value of all statistics. One is the accuracy with which they are gathered, and the other is the honesty with which they are interpreted. The gathering of statistics is not the easy task which many people suppose, or which, possibly, you supposed before you tried it. It requires intelligence, discrimination, tact, courtesy, patience and fidelity in no small degree, and your work shows the possession of these qualities to a very gratifying extent, as it seems to me. But the correct reading and interpretation of statistics is oftentimes an almost equally delicate and difficult task. The temptation is frequently strong to close our eyes to unpleasant conclusions or to attempt to explain them away. Candor and courage are needed here in the proper interpretation of our statistical work as intelligence and accuracy were needed in their collection. Let the proceedings of this conference demonstrate that we are possessed of all these qualities.

PRENATAL AND HEREDITARY INFLUENCES.

BY MRS. ADELLA HUNT LOGAN ('81), TUSKEGEE, ALA.

The boy takes his large nose from his grandmother, the small mouth from his father, and a quick temper from his mother. This is natural, for children always inherit the characteristics of their ancestors. But where does he get red hair? No one in the family has hair of that color. And how is it that the young man seems prone to the social sin? His father has always seemed upright, and his mother is regarded as a model of purity. To be sure, the grandfather sowed wild oats, and it is charged that a great-great-grandmother was born out of wedlock, but that was generations ago and this young man has never heard those family scandals of a hundred years past.

It is well, if his ears have never listened to such unhappy stories. His parents were wise in withholding them from his knowledge. Alas! while they could easily keep the family skeleton in the closet and spare their son the humiliation of such ugly tales they could not so easily purify and change the blood that coursed in their veins; hence we see the son, in spite of fine precept and example, on the downward grade in his social tendencies.

Again, they say this young man is not very strong. His mother fears he is going into consumption. The father says: "Have no fears along that line, my dear, for there is no consumption in my family nor in yours. No danger of that, although somehow our son is rather frail!"

That red hair is hard to account for, but, no doubt, this head is an exact reproduction of one in the same family generations ago. It may be so far back, indeed, that no living person remembers having heard of the peculiarity. In the same silent way influences which affect the morals and the health of the boy have been handed down.

How rarely in the every day ordering of our lives do we give any attention to that silent, but powerful, thing known as heredity! Although its power cannot be confined in time to the earthly life of man, nor in social contact to any one race, as long as we are not reminded in some very forcible or unpleasant way of its effects, we

scarcely think of its operations. At any rate, the thought expended upon it rarely ripens into such action as will regulate its influence.

In respect to time the force of heredity cannot be checked by a generation. We are to-day reaping what was sown, not by our fathers alone, but by their fathers and grandfathers. "Unto the third and fourth generation of them" was the decree thundered from Mt. Sinai by the voice of Almighty God.

There can be no suspending of the influences of heredity until the human soul has had sufficient development to appreciate responsibilities; until it wills to be shaped by this or by that influence. No, there is no choice! Before the body is ready to begin life as a separate being, as a new personality, it is molded and cast by the combined traits of the father and the mother from whom this new creature must draw its individual existence. And the intellectual and ethical cast will follow as closely the law, "Like begets like," as will the physical. We do not expect to find the children of white parentage having black faces or kinky hair, nor the children of black ancestry having fair brows, blue eyes, and flaxen locks. It would be just as unreasonable to expect the intellectual and the ethical characteristics of children to be radically unlike those of their ancestors as it would be to expect their physical features to be radically different.

'Tis true that the progeny of some very good parents are very bad specimens of humanity, but such cases must be like our boy's red hair which fell to him despite the fact that no other such head had ever been seen in that family. In both cases the results came through blood. Both the red hair and the weak or vicious character were transmitted. Probably through a long stream of blood, but we must know that neither came as a matter of chance. The one was just as much a legacy as the other.

Placing an inheritance is often difficult for the reason that it may be the result of complex causes and combined forces.

Possibly no one in the preceding generations had red hair, but there must have been sufficient in the aggregate of that kind of pigment to produce one such head in the family: This same principle of transmission applies to the health, the brain and the morals of the descendants. The exact ailment of body or malady of mind may not be traceable to any one source, but it has been handed down.

Legacies of money seem to fall in most cases to those who are already fortunate. This may be on the theory that "To him that hath shall be given." Not so with the more enduring legacies of body and soul. Whether we will or no they come, and, like the dreaded bacteria, fix themselves in the most fertile soil. Where there is one weakness of body or mind another is the more apt to locate; hence, instead of having a general distribution of evil, it falls much more heavily in some places than in others.

To no one source more than the conditions attendant upon pregnant women can the cause of physical or moral evil be traced. The unborn child draws its physical and in large measure its intellectual and ethical make-up from its father and its mother. Not from the mother alone, as many suppose, but from both.

Both parents contribute to the possibilities for health, good or bad, and furnish the germs for character creation and development just as certainly as they together originate the physical life.

These are solemn truths! Yet how few people understand or regard them! The awful sacredness of procreation has never yet dawned upon any considerable proportion of mankind.

Sadly enough, the gratification of passion is too often the only thought, while the result is given little or no consideration. Too many children come into life as mere accidents. The father is irritated at the thought of an additional one to work for. He feels his present family to be quite as much as he can decently support. His moroseness is communicated to the already regretful mother, who reasons that she is not strong enough, that children worry her so she cannot do justice to those she already has, that her time and strength are too much divided, as she in many cases is also a bread-winner. Sad plight, we see, for there is reason in the objections offered. But prudential considerations come too late to be availing. Just think how the innocent offspring must reap the evil effects of these unholy feelings and expressions, and all the sympathy that you might have felt for the parents turns into disgust, and you exclaim: "In Heaven's name, call your will to the rescue and say, 'God helping me, I will not thus prejudice the cause of my own child!'"

Few women seem to appreciate the fact that the sensitive embryo receives the impressions made upon the mind of the mother. Very strange thoughtlessness, as the most ignorant believe in birthmarks

and everything that affects the body. How is it that they do not realize that a mind also is being created?

All parents love their children and most love them to the very best of their understanding. Because of this love, which we believe to be the strongest known to the human breast, most parents are willing to be taught what is best for their offspring.

In making effort to give uplift to the vitality of the Negro race the best work needs to be put into the enlightenment of present and prospective parenthood. Not necessarily into general and extended learning,—that is more or less impracticable,—but the claims of prenatal and hereditary influences need to be brought to the direct and intelligent consideration of all classes.

In the women's meetings and in the men's meetings equally there should be set forth in a plain way the important teachings of science on this important subject. This instruction may be set forth in such language as the occasion demands and the instructor chooses to employ, but, above all, let it be distinctly understood that the development of germ life depends upon the original germ and equally upon the culture and treatment of that germ:—in short, teach that the prenatal development of a child depends largely upon *whatever* affects the mother. If the pregnant woman is constantly wishing that her unborn child were dead or that the man who has given her this burden,—as she has learned in her chagrin to regard the child,—were dead; who can wonder that out of such murderous thought there should come in very truth a murderer!

Should the material wants of the mother be denied her to such an extent that she feels the necessity and yields to the temptation of supplying them by theft or by prostitution who shall think it strange that her child should be a thief or prostitute? If the father is a drunkard the son is apt to be a drunkard.

Criminals are often made years and years before they are sentenced to prison. Alas! too often made criminal before they are born.

The body may come into life as sorely doomed as the mind, unable to resist the ordinary diseases incident to childlife, because of the many neglects and abuses of the bodies of parents. This is very wrong; very unfair to the child and in many ways very hard on parents.

The creation of a strong public sentiment on these subjects seems to be an imperative necessity.

THE CARE OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN.

BY REV. JOSEPH E. SMITH ('76), CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

[NOTE: For confirmation of the facts stated by Mr. Smith, see table 7 of appendix A, showing the proportion of families partially or wholly supported by women. The enforced absence of the mothers from their homes will remain a vital factor in the problem for many years to come, being due to industrial conditions which will change slowly. Mr. Smith's recommendations are therefore timely.—Ed.]

“Seest thou not what they do in the cities . . . and in the streets?” I desire to call attention to some of the daily scenes in our streets and the lessons which they teach. The streets of a city are the exhibition halls of its citizens. Walking through these public halls all phases and conditions of life may be seen, and the character and civilization of its people judged. Most pleasing and inspiring evidences of well ordered and happy home life appear on the one hand; while on the other hand many and sad are the evidences of no order, no home life and no happiness for a large number of people.

It is of this *imperative* need,—orderly home life and training,—as evidenced by street and prison scenes, that I shall now more particularly speak.

One of the first scenes in our streets between the hours of five and six o'clock in the morning is, large numbers of women rushing to their places of work for the day. About eight o'clock at night they return to their homes. Many of these women are mothers with from one to eight and often more children. Unwillingly these mothers leave their children all day and part of the night in the place they call home, all alone to care for themselves. If they are awake, just before the mother leaves, as is usually the case, she gives them hastily what she may happen to have for their breakfast, sometimes a piece of bread, sometimes it is a little molasses in a tin plate or old bucket top, around which the little ones all gather and each in his turn dips in his fingers and licks them off until all the molasses is gone. To this sweetness the mother adds many sweet promises of great things for them if they will be good and stay at home until mama comes back at night. Then with great

anxiety and confusion she tears herself away from them and hastens to her work while they cry for her to come back, and often they are quarreling and fighting among themselves before she is out of sight. No one but a mother knows how painful it is to leave her children all alone under these unfortunate circumstances, but there is nothing else for her to do but to go, and go she does with an aching heart.

It is not long after the mother is gone before the children, being left to themselves, leave the house, go into the streets, wander about at will from place to place, get into mischief and commit sin, often taking little things from people's houses without realizing that they have done wrong. They ramble about until tired, fall down at almost any place, go to sleep, and wake up again only to continue the ramble, sometimes until late in the night.

The anxious mother comes home at night to find that her children are not there. She does not know where they are and starts out in the dark to look for them in the streets. Often she finds them in the city jail or station house, having been arrested by some officer during the day or early night for committing some little crime. Chief Hill of the police force of Chattanooga says: "They are brought in the patrol wagon to the station house by the dozen at the time. Ask them where their parents are and they will say, 'Dead, or at work, or away from home somewhere.'"

Such is a faint representation of a part of that which is going on in our streets every day, and we need only to multiply the days and we have the awful record of years. Growing up in the midst of such daily surroundings and influences is it to be wondered at that large numbers of our young people find their way to the chain-gang and work house?

There are hundreds and thousands of our children at this very hour who are roaming about at large in the streets of our cities because they have had no orderly home life or training; growing up in the streets their idea of living is such as they get from the worse side of street life, and the inevitable result must be crime, prison and the gallows. And the saddest thing about all of this is, that unless under the providence of God a preventive is found, this most appalling state of society must continue growing worse each day to the end of time.

Is it possible to so reenforce the home as to save society and the

state this awful menace? I believe it is possible and practicable. The "Day Nursery" and education as reenforcements to the home furnish the preventive.

The greatest need of Negro children is the right kind of home life and training. It is a most encouraging truth that many of our people have neat, modest, virtuous homes, and their children, being reared under intelligent and safe motherly influences, are growing up virtuous and modest, trustworthy and useful. These children are not candidates for crime, disease and prison, but for a worthy and useful citizenship. While this number is small when compared to the masses, yet it is large enough to show what can be done by that all-important agency, the home. The day nursery, as a supplement to the home, is the most *urgent need* of the great masses of Negro children. Says Mrs. Dodge in the *Outlook*: "If the child is father to the man, then the influences which surround him during childhood have the greatest effect upon his after-life, and the day nursery is, therefore, the foundation upon which to build the structure of character; for, taking the child in his earliest years, often indeed in earliest infancy, nursery training is the first in the chain of educational influences which aid the state in making the useful citizen, this influence holding sway over his mind and heart on through the kindergarten period, through the public school, and over the threshold into the whirl of life's exacting activities."

If day nurseries can be established in the cities and the little ones gathered from the streets into them; soap and fresh water, comb and brush freely and effectually used; a clean little garment furnished for a clean little body, and some wholesome food for a hungry little stomach; clean thoughts put into the little mind and heart; lessons of sympathy, kindness, honesty, industry, hope and self-respect taught;—if these things can be done for all Negro children deprived of home training a long and very effectual step will be taken toward reducing crime, disease and premature death.

THE NEED OF FRIENDLY VISITATION.

BY REV. H. H. PROCTOR, ATLANTA, GA.

An undertaker who within the last ten years has buried many of the ten thousand of our people who sleep in Southview cemetery recently made a remark to me that set me to thinking. I give it to you to-night with the hope that it may have the same effect upon you. "You have no idea," he said, "how many people are dying from the lack of sympathy." This is expert testimony, and we cannot reject it.

I suspect, however, that the idea he had in mind is capable of a more precise expression. There is a wealth of sympathy in this world. It is the exceptional heart that contains no well-spring of sympathy. The difficulty is not as to the possession of sympathy; it is as to its expression. Many people are dying because no one expresses any sympathy for them. Sympathy is like the coupon on the railway ticket,—not good if detached! Prayer may be effective, though unexpressed; but not so with sympathy.

There are many ways of expressing this sympathy so as to make it effective in elevating the home life of the poor. One way is by giving good advice in an assembly like this. Another is by contributing money to be used in judicious ways. Both of these are needed, but I am thinking of another way, which, while not necessarily independent of these, is, I think, more important than either. I refer to friendly personal visitation. Advice is cheap. We may cast a coin at a beggar to quiet a disturbing conscience. But to give ourselves,—that is the gift that costs. To go into the homes of the people and, as did Philip with the eunuch, to sit with them, costs more than to make an address or contribute a quarter. And yet that is to my mind the only solution of this great sociological problem. We must come into personal touch with the masses.

To this some will put in objections. Will not these people presume upon our social reserve? Will not the upper class be dragged down by contact with the lower? These questions are not unnatural. They demand a reasonable answer. To the first objection I would say that

there is not the least danger of the plainest people mistaking our kindly interest for an invitation to our private social functions. The plain people have wonderfully keen instincts. To the other I would say that it is not contact with the lower element that injures the higher ; it is the kind of contact. The distinction is vital. "He is armed without who is innocent within." Virtue is its possessor's shield. The immaculate swan comes unspotted from the vilest sewer.

If you would elevate a building you would not apply pulleys at the top. You would put jackscrews under the mudsills. You cannot elevate society by lifting from the top ; you must put the jackscrews under the mudsills of society. Put the unfailing dynamics of friendly visitation under the homes of the poor and the whole people will rise a living, an exalted temple before God.

CAUSES OF CONSUMPTION, AND PRACTICAL METHODS OF PREVENTING IT.

BY A. J. LOVE, M.D., CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

Mr. President: Thinking as I do that the specific treatment of tuberculosis does not come before us for consideration at this meeting, I shall not enter into a discussion of the late discoveries for the radical cure of consumption.

In presenting to you this paper on a subject about which so much has been written and concerning the solution of which so many theories have been advanced, I shall speak more from a practical than from a theoretical standpoint.

That tuberculosis is a germ disease is no longer disputed. But a practical means of destroying this bacillus is the vexatious question of to-day.

To rightly understand some of the means of checking and preventing the growth of consumption we must first know some of its predisposing as well as some of its exciting causes.

A predisposition to tuberculosis is inherited. Not that the infant is born with the germ fully developed in his system, but being born of tuberculous parents he inherits a condition favorable to the development of the disease. He is of an inferior physique, usually slender, emaciated, nervous, easily exhausted, has a low or deformed chest, his blood is poor in quality, he is susceptible to colds, and subject to bronchial catarrh and cough. The alimentary canal is one of the most vulnerable points in his anatomy. The digestion is so feeble that the mildest diet is sometimes harmful. And yet, with all this, he is bright-eyed, intelligent and hopeful.

There is an intimate relation between consumption and scrofula, which is likewise a disease of degenerative tissue metamorphosis. Whether there is a direct relation between these two diseases or not, is perhaps yet to be demonstrated, but the clinical fact that tuberculous and strumous diatheses are almost always found in the same subjects cannot be denied. That the tissues of scrofulous subjects are wanting

in vital power is apparent from their great tendency to suppurate. Bartholow says that the tubercle is a product of serofula, which would indicate that the same cause which produces serofulosis would, through the process of pathological evolution, produce tuberculosis.

Is tuberculosis possible in a subject who has not the unfortunate legacy of a tubercular diathesis? To my mind there can be no doubt that the affirmative of this is true. The child born of healthy parents, but who is reared in the slums of a densely populated city, housed in a miserable hut in the alley, forced to sleep in a crowded apartment where the atmosphere is necessarily damp and virulent, both from the effluvia rising from the decomposing excreta from the bodies of its many inmates and from the vitiated gases exhaled from their lungs, who sleeps in the garments which he wears through many weary days, who goes for months without knowing the civilizing, Christianizing and cleansing influence of the bath, whose food is improperly cooked and wanting both in quality and quantity, and concerning the hour of whose meals there is no regularity, will almost surely present early symptoms of decay.

That constitution which at the outset was physiologically perfect has gradually degenerated into one with inferior vital tendencies. The morbid influences of his surroundings have wrought upon him a molecular modification of the tissues, which undergo a low grade of inflammation and glandular suppuration. This, with its catalogue of pathological possibilities, is serofulosis. This fruitful soil is the rendezvous for bacteria of every morbid turn of mind. The cells having lost their vital resistance, the system becomes an easy prey to disease. Here the tubercle bacillus finds a suitable pabulum on which to subsist, and amid such unfavorable surroundings our subject of unfortunate circumstances will almost inevitably succumb to this disease. But even if at this period he should not himself be overtaken by tuberculosis, still this marked tendency of constitution will gradually become permanent and capable of hereditary transmission. Thus the succeeding generations of all such individuals have a natural predisposition to tuberculosis, as also to many other diseases which are superinduced by malnutrition.

Drunkenness in parents predisposes to consumption in their offspring, because of the fact that they transmit to them the toxological

effects of alcoholism, producing a general deterioration of nutrition, and because of semi-starvation due to neglect on the part of these parents while under the influence of alcohol. For it is a painful fact that mothers in the lower classes, as well as fathers, are becoming more and more addicted to strong drink, and that these unfortunate children are allowed to go for many hours without nourishment.

Puberty, with its attending susceptibility to consumption, is a critical period. The system, while undergoing the important changes of maturity, is ill-prepared to defend itself against extraneous pathological factors. This period ends the career of many youth, who in their infancy were fed on artificial food instead of mother's milk. That this has a baneful influence on the constitution during a lifetime, the emaciated frames of these unfortunate subjects will attest. Those articles of diet which purport to be elegant substitutes for mothers' milk are wanting in both nutrition and digestibility. Though they have the elements necessary for development and growth the ratio of these elements is not in keeping with the natural formula of mothers' milk and a dyspeptic condition is induced which leads to marasmus, scrofulosis, tuberculosis, and death.

It is a prevalent idea that tuberculosis is transmissible by touch, and that inhalations of effluvia emanating from the skin of tuberculous subjects will reproduce the disease. This, however, is untrue.

The most frequent cause of the direct transmission of tuberculosis is the inhalation of the bacillus arising from dried and pulverized sputum. Hence the danger of living in houses recently occupied by consumptives. They frequently spit upon the walls or the floor, and the bed-clothing and wearing apparel become contaminated with sputum, which, when dry and broken into small particles, is subject to inhalation. While it is true that this virus is of a greater specific gravity than air and therefore has a tendency to fall to the floor, yet sweeping and dusting will raise it, at which time it may be inhaled and become a nucleus around which is built that insidious and yet aggressive foe.

As long as the germ is kept suspended in fluid it is less liable to cause infection, for as moisture increases its specific gravity it cannot float in the atmosphere and therefore cannot be inhaled.

In order for this bacillus to find a lodging place in the human econ-

omy, there must be a dissolution of continuity in the mucous membrane. For in a healthy condition it is not liable to infection. It is here that these bronchial catarrhs and colds cut such a distinguishing figure; for a catarrh indicates that violence has been done to the integrity of a mucous membrane, destroying or impairing its protective power to such an extent as to admit of inoculation and infection. This is the second whirlpool for our predisposed subject, for if possibly in his childhood he has steered clear of Scylla he has now drifted into Charybdis.

It is not likely, however, that a subject with an otherwise healthy constitution, even though he has a diseased mucous membrane, will become infected under such circumstances. For the blood in such an individual is rich in the life-giving properties of the body and the cells are so vigorous as to stand as a bulwark against an invading enemy.

Tuberculosis may also be contracted through impure alimentation; for it has been clearly demonstrated that cows are often affected with this disease and that tubercle bacilli are found in large numbers in their milk.

When there is a lesion in the alimentary tract virus may, because of this, enter the blood and induce both local and constitutional consumption. That this source of infection is true was proven a short time ago in a swine test. Of 1,026 healthy swine fed on sour whiskey and distillery slop, all were sickened and 250 died. Autopsies on 104 showed tubercle bacilli. In an adjoining pen were 600, fed on good sweet maize. None contracted tuberculosis.

Persons whose foods are subject to acetic fermentation in the alimentary canal are liable to tuberculosis through its absorption. In those habituated to strong drink the micoderma aceti, which is an acetic ferment, is frequently absorbed through the intestinal mucous membrane, which is paralyzed by the presence of alcohol, but in the absence of this stimulant this membrane is capable of protecting against such absorption.

The death-rate from consumption in the United States is appalling. But that the spread of this disease can be checked is clearly apparent.

It is the plain duty of every city to pass ordinances prohibiting its inhabitants from living in squalor and dirt; prohibiting the conversion of homes which should be clean, wholesome and pure, into pest

houses and laboratories in which are incubated every conceivable form of virulent bacteria ; directing that the premises of all be kept at all times clean, that bedding and carpets be aired and exposed to the sun, that the houses be from time to time renovated, that thorough ventilation be the rule in every household.

While it is a fact that every family is not able to wear costly garments, yet every family can wear clean ones, and have clean surroundings.

Nor do I think a course of this kind impracticable or abridging personal rights ; for to live in such unwholesome abodes with such unhealthy surroundings is not only damaging to those who indulge in this loathsome practice, but is forever an abiding source of infection to the community. This is a menace which no municipality can brook without becoming weakened thereby. This is the prime source of all infectious diseases, a nuisance to the public because it is in direct opposition to the pursuit of health and happiness. A government has the same right to protect its votaries from this deadly condition as it has to quarantine against smallpox. For while smallpox is rapidly contagious and spreads dread disaster in its wake, what disease is more terrible than consumption, which like the boa constrictor is stealthily winding itself around humanity and squeezing the life out of the nations ?

If we would stamp out tuberculosis we must elevate the standard of living among the lower classes. We must save them from themselves. If we have not educational facilities sufficient to civilize them fast enough, we must bring them up to the requirements by legislation. In my opinion the present condition is too appalling to wait on the slow process of evolution. More vigorous measures must be taken.

We need a more rigid system of food inspection. No animal should be killed for food without first being scientifically inspected and pronounced sound. The inspection of milk for tubercle bacilli should be made a specialty. Milch cows and animals to be killed for meat should not be fed on impure foods. Stale and tainted meats of any kind should not be eaten, for although bacteria for the most part are destroyed in the process of cooking, still the decomposition of this abnormal material in the intestines may produce infection, thus lessening the vital resistance and paving the way for consumption.

VENTILATION.

BY H. R. BUTLER, A.M., M.D., ATLANTA, GA.



[NOTE: Dr. Butler's paper included also the subjects of Exercise and Physical Development. But in this case, as also in others, we have felt obliged to abbreviate.—ED.]

In the homes of the most ignorant of our people, and some of the intelligent for that matter, ventilation is an unknown quantity. The inmates are opposed to having air enter the house when all are *well*, and if any of the family are *sick* it is believed that it means death to the patient should air, and in some cases light, enter the sick chamber.

I will not enter into a description of the various methods of ventilation; we have not the time for such here. I will simply give you a few of the many cases that have come under my observation in which ventilation was much needed.

Case 1.—This first case to which I wish to call your attention was in a one-room house; room 14x14; inmates, four. It was a case of confinement. The room was as dark and the air as foul at twelve o'clock in the day as it was at twelve at night. I had to use a small tin lamp at either hour in order to see how to care for my patient.

Case 2.—It was in a small basement room where a mother and two small children lay sick, nigh unto death. The door and window had been closed for weeks. The air was foul, damp and heavy. There they were with no friends, no water, no food, and no pure air. There they lay until found by some good women who sent the mother to the poor-house, one child to the hospital where it died, and the other to the Carrie Steele Orphans' Home, where it is recovering slowly. The mother is well and has returned to the city and is at work. Both mother and child, however, show signs of tuberculosis, which are no doubt the result of inhaling the foul air of that basement room.

Case 3.—I manage to visit the public schools of the city at least once a year. I visited one of these schools this year in which everything else was taught and practiced but ventilation. The air in some of the rooms of that building was not at all conducive to good health.

Case 4.—It was a two-room house; inmates, two,—a man and his wife. The husband lay dying with consumption and would, in his delirium, spit any and every where. The wife, who was a kind and tidy woman, did all in her power, under the circumstances, to keep her little home clean. To do this she was continually sweeping, in which process she kept bacilli on the move, endangering not only her health but my health and the health of all her friends who might call.

Being a woman of some intelligence a brief explanation that she must keep the air of the room fresh and free from dust was all that was necessary to have her see the danger. I then began to care for my patient hygienically and antiseptically.

Thus I could go on and multiply case after case to show the great necessity of a better understanding among our people concerning ventilation; but it is not necessary. We all are satisfied that much improvement is needed in our homes along those lines and that is why we are here.

Preaching the laws of health and hygiene in this age has about the same effect that preaching the gospel has. They hear willingly, but heed slowly. Many hear, but only a few will believe; a few will be saved and many will be lost.

In conclusion, I would ask that this organization petition Congress to make an appropriation to help push forward this well-begun work.

With that aid we would be able to place one or two physicians in every large city, at least, whose duty it would be to push these investigations, and as they would go from home to home they could instruct the people as to ventilation and in the laws of health and hygiene. This is, indeed, necessary if we wish to have the masses instructed in those things that are indispensable in order to have strong and healthy bodies as well as strong and vigorous minds.

THE CARE OF THE TEETH IN ITS RELATION TO HEALTH.

BY J. R. PORTER ('86), D.D.S., ATLANTA, GA.

In working out our health problems we often fail to recognize certain factors which are highly important. We hardly ever figure on the effect of diseased teeth on the general health, and their permanent handicap on our energies. Many a trouble that has been assigned to some remote cause, and that has called forth learned disquisitions, should have been placed at the door of some abscessed tooth of long standing, and the diagnosis punctuated with the forceps.

Many a case of facial neuralgia is the progeny of uncared-for teeth. Many an injured eye owes all its troubles to the root of some offending tooth that reaches the floor of its orbit by using the Antrum of Hymore as a go-between; while fever, hysteria, muscular neuralgia and apparent heart trouble, that are plainly due to these unclean members, are not infrequently met with.

There are two classes of evils that may arise as a result of diseased tooth tissue: those that come from actual contact with the poisonous matter generated in the affected member, and those that result from the constant irritation of the nerve tissues.

Each one of these may be serious in its consequences, and may force upon us evils that will run their allotted third and fourth generation, or may leave permanent marks on our physical appearance and health.

Lessons should be taught in the schools on the care of the teeth, as well as of other portions of the body. People do not neglect treating a fever, removing a splinter or caring for a sprain, and yet they pass unnoticed these long-suffering members, until one of them, after long endurance, suddenly wakes them to a sense of their duty.

There is a truth that rings through the pages of the Bible, in so many forms and varieties that it has become impressive. "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," is that truth. In it we have our first

lesson in hygiene, and around it clusters all our physical and spiritual comfort.

There is nothing useless in that sacred volume, nothing written for mere ornament, nothing engrafted in the wonderful schemes of creation and redemption that has not a "because" attached to it, and that is not a link in God's economy, whether of man towards his Creator, or of man towards himself.

This beautiful truth is therefore pregnant with a deeper meaning than is at first apparent. Not only does it teach that we should keep the body pure and clean as the fit temple of the living God; but more, it teaches that if we would more nearly live the allotted span of human life, we should recognize that cleanliness is the panacea for all our ills, and that sanitation, external and internal, is our best safeguard against disease.

ADDRESS BEFORE THE WOMEN'S MEETING.

BY MISS LUCY C. LANEY ('73), AUGUSTA, GA.

Ladies : A little more than a quarter of a century ago this American Republic, after much painful travail, brought forth the youngest child of civilization—the Negro citizen. To-day we, the offspring of that birth, stand upon the entrance of a glorious future if we will accept and faithfully comply with the conditions upon which we may claim the boon.

To find out and to discuss some of these conditions is the object of this conference and the women's section of it. For a long time many were disposed to think that the condition of most importance was politics, and for years politicians, honest and dishonest, ignorant and wise, struggled in vain to bring about that consummation devoutly to be wished, true manhood in our race. Some vainly hoped that that miserable deformity wrongly called education, viz., the conning of a few facts from text-books, was *the* condition to be complied with. Still another class said honestly and devoutly that the condition and the only condition to be met was the development of our religious nature. A fourth class united the second and third conditions, and after somewhat modifying the third, gave to the world as the watchword of Negro development "the Bible and the spelling-book." Any *one* of these made the rule of life, made the only condition to be met, has been to those who followed it an *ignis fatuus*, for it has misguided them and led them into dangerous places. Each by itself is but a part of a grand total.

No person is responsible for his ancestors ; nor should he be held responsible for their sins and short-comings, though he bear about in his body the marks and scars of those sins ; but every woman can see to it that she gives to her progeny a good mother and an honorable ancestry. I care not how humble may be the house in which two loving hearts may set up their household gods, if blessed with a manly and God-fearing husband, a womanly and God-fearing wife, intelligence and health, that place is a *home*, the nearest approach on earth to

heaven. The chief joy of home is mother. You may place upon the brow of a true mother the greenest laurel or you may give into her keeping the highest civic honors, but these to her will be found wanting if weighed in a balance over against her home. To her the blessedness of motherhood is the greatest joy, a crown more costly than pearls of royalty.

Marriage, the beginning of home, is a matter of great importance and should not be carelessly entered into. It is the place to take the proverbial stitch in time. From this point a shadow may be cast which will darken the pathway of coming generations. This is not a question that can be settled on a basis of gain or convenience, but as has been said: "A tie that only love and truth should weave and nothing but death should part."

Motherhood, honored by our blessed Master, is the crown of womanhood. This gives her not only interest in the home and society, but also authority. She should be interested in the welfare of her own and her neighbors' children. To woman has been committed the responsibility of making the laws of society, making environments for children. She has the privilege and authority, God-given, to help develop into a noble man or woman the young life committed to her care. There is no nobler work entrusted to the hands of mortals.

Faithful mothers, mothers who know their duty and perform it,—such must have been the mother of the Gracchi,—such a mother we read of in holy writ: "All nations shall rise up and call her blessed."

Will not the intelligent mother gather to her heart her sons and daughters and teach them to be pure in life and chaste in conversation, and see to it that there be no double standard set up in her home, and none in her community if she be able to tear it down?

Too often that mother who is careful of her daughter's environment, the formation of her girl's character, is negligent as to her son's. He may choose his own company,—be the molder of his own character. If the daughter should drag the robes of her womanhood in the dust that mother would be covered with shame and grief,—but the son of that mother may trample down his manhood and there will scarcely be a blush; only the old but false cry, and pernicious as it is false, "Boys must sow their wild oats."

Our boys need the careful, loving hand of mother; perhaps not more

so than the girls—but certainly not less.

Shall the boys be left to the tender training of the saloons and the fascinations of women degraded by sin? God forbid it! Women of to-day, awake to your responsibilities and privileges.

The Mothers' Congress recently held at Washington was not only a most unique gathering, but as the years roll on and men and women study more carefully that most important of all questions,—the children of the nation,—it will be found to be the working out of the noblest ideas of the noblest minds and most loving hearts of the age. That vast assemblage of men and women discussing questions most vital to the welfare of their children shows how great is the lamentation in Rama, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted because they are not.

Shall we not catch inspiration from that Congress and in our literary societies, ladies' clubs, and even in our churches study our children by the search-light of the new psychology and with the spirit of the true and loving mother?

FRIENDLY VISITING.

BY MRS. MINNIE WRIGHT PRICE ('88), SOUTH ATLANTA, GA.

Life would not be worth living did we not have friends to rejoice with us when we are glad, and to weep with us when we mourn.

As the babe looks to his mother to laugh when something has particularly pleased him and expects that same mother to kiss away his tears when trouble has befallen him, so we, who are grown to womanhood, like to feel that we have earthly friends to sympathize with us in joy or grief. But what do we think of a near friend who never visits us?

All of us have our friends, especially while we live in the place of our birth ; for there are men and women there who knew us when we were babies, who are our friends for our mother's or father's sake, if not for our own.

There are boys and girls who grew up with us on the play-ground and in the school-room, who, in remembrance of the associations of our youth, will always be our friends. But not all spend their lives on their native heath, some are continually moving, they spend a few months here and then, when they have just begun to make friends, move on to another place. They are often strangers in a strange land and then it is that they feel the loneliness and emptiness of life without friends.

Our neighborhoods are filled with families which need the sympathy and cheer that a friendly visit from you would give, but you withhold yourself because they are a little lower in the social scale than you are, or if they are higher, you fear that they will think you are seeking their recognition. How much better off we would be if we would cease to draw these lines of caste and each of us as we climb the ladder reach down and assist a struggling sister!

What a spiritual help we would be to each other, if we would make more friendly visits ! Just a word of cheer and hope to the low-spirited, a word of sympathy to the sick, would show forth the Holy

Spirit who dwells in all Christian hearts.

Women are naturally kind and friendly. About woman has ever clustered the affection, the romance and even the comfort of human existence. Wherever women are found there is almost always cheerfulness and kindness; they are generally obliging, and even among savage tribes they are not as distant and suspicious as men. However poor their hospitality may be, they can safely be relied upon by the stranger.

Mungo Park in the midst of Africa, when robbed of his baggage and suffering from fever, was sheltered by a Negro woman, who watched and cared for him with a mother's tenderness. If cold, wet, hungry or sick, woman never stops to consider aught but the stranger's needs and will sacrifice her last stick or crumb to relieve him.

It was a poor widow who fed Elijah in the time of famine. It was the kindness of woman that led her to commiserate the sufferings of the numerous criminals, herded in the dark, unwholesome cells of the English prisons, and the work of Elizabeth Frye among the vile in Newgate will be remembered with reverence while the world lasts.

Not many of us are permitted to feed an Elijah, but how many are daily letting the opportunity slip by when we might visit some of our poor neighbors, carrying a bit of the family breakfast or dinner, and while the food satisfies their hunger, our cheering words will give them hope, courage and strength to toil on.

Very few of us are called to bring about great reforms, but each and all of us by making friendly visits among our neighbors, can teach them the lessons of purity, cleanliness, and economy in their persons and in their homes. We can also carry to them the message of Christ, while we will get in return some very valuable lesson.

In visiting those of our own station in life we gain by the exchange of ideas and our children and homes profit thereby; while friendly visits with those better situated than we will inspire us to climb higher.

We need to cultivate a habit of making friendly visits because of the help, the cheer, the inspiration we may give to others, and because of the help we may be to ourselves, for in this way we may learn to be content when comparing our lot with that of the more unfortunate;

or if discontented, it will be, not to grumble or complain of Providence, but to put forth efforts to better our condition, and also because of the help we may be to the Church and to civilization.

When we visit our neighbors, giving them spiritual cheer or physical assistance, we are teaching the lesson of Christianity by example, we are walking in the footsteps of our Master and building up His Church on earth. And as we inspire others to make home pure, comfortable and happy, we are making the men and women of the future, who will lead honest, industrious Christian lives. Thus we will rid the country of its chain gangs and prison houses, and build up a civilization such as the world has never yet seen.

MOTHERS' MEETINGS.

BY MRS. GEORGIA SWIFT KING ('74), ATLANTA, GA.

If it is true, that of the three main factors in the make-up of the individual,—the home, the school and the church,—the greatest is the home, and since it is true that the home is what the parents make it, the mother by nature having the larger share in the making, then it follows that the destiny of the Negro race is largely in the hands of its mothers.

Statistics resulting from recent investigations indicate with respect to the Negro population of the United States; first, a general decrease in the birth-rate; second, an alarmingly excessive infant death-rate; third, because of inherited tendencies and defective education,—physical, intellectual and moral,—a greatly excessive death-rate among adults; fourth, that so little does the birth-rate exceed the death-rate that the race is doing little more than reproducing itself. These indications furnish food for thought, and reason for investigation and action.

The alarming increase of infanticide (without reference to the immoral, brutal class) seems to result from the overworked, discouraged, desperate state of many *laboring* mothers, upon whom the burden of family support so largely rests.

The large death-rate of both infants and adults, I believe, may be traced to poverty and ignorance of the laws of health; an ignorance not confined to the illiterate, for how many highly intelligent people there are who have almost no knowledge of the symptoms of ordinary diseases; who do not know when to send for the doctor, nor how to care for the sick. I recall several instances during the present year where promising lives in intelligent homes have been sacrificed on the altar of ignorance and the most extravagant economy; what wonder that the illiterate and poor die in so great numbers!

Does this excessive death-rate indicate a corresponding mental and moral decay? What is the remedy for such conditions?

The blood of the fallen is required at the hands of the intelligent

class. The demand is apparent for preachers who study the signs of the times and deal practically with the needs of the hour; for teachers, capable, conscientious, consecrated; for physicians, skilled, honorable, philanthropic. But these agencies alone can not meet the demands and should be supplemented by other methods.

Observation and experience lead me to conclude that a most excellent medium for effectual instruction of the masses, is "Mother's Meetings," where all questions of human interest are pertinent and may be freely discussed; where all classes of women may become better informed; where even the illiterate, by regular attendance, may gain much essential knowledge of such vital subjects as: The laws of sanitation; Selection of foods; Economic cooking; Proper and wholesome dress; Care of infants: Needs (physical, mental and moral) of childhood; Care of boys and girls through the critical period between childhood and maturity; How to fortify young men against the follies of immorality and young women against the dangers of imprudence.

The science of health and heredity and prenatal influences, and all that pertains to household morality and economy, may be handled with such simplicity in these meetings, that not only the mothers but the whole people may receive real benefit.

When difficulty is experienced in getting the mothers to these meetings I have met with some success by taking the meetings to the mothers, that is, to their immediate neighborhood.

NEED OF DAY NURSERIES.

BY MRS. SELENA SLOAN BUTLER, ATLANTA, GA.

Among the important questions of to-day is the need of day nurseries in cities and towns where children of parents who, by force of circumstances, are obliged to earn a living by working in service, may receive good and wholesome influences during that period of life when impressions are easily made and character readily molded, either for good or bad.

Many parents in cities must do work which calls them away from home, and often they toil from early dawn till a late hour to keep the wolf from the door, and, because of their small wages, their children often are forced to do work too hard for them that their meager earnings may add to the support of the still smaller children left at home during the day without the care of a poor but loving mother; left alone during that most important period of their lives when good or evil principles will, by cultivation, become the ruling passion through life; left alone to grow up amid a multitude of unfavorable surroundings. With these existing circumstances, it does not need a prophet to tell what the result will be.

It is a daily experience to find a child of tender years left to tend the baby with but a scant meal of meat and bread, while the widowed mother is out at work. At a late hour the mother returns, tired and almost exhausted; she proceeds at once to satisfy the hunger of her unfortunate children, and then, in her humble way, as best she can, with their bowed heads at her side she teaches them to lisp the "Lord's Prayer," then all are lost in sleep. The majority of the children who would be glad to find protection in a day nursery are not blessed with even this limited knowledge of a good moral training.

Such circumstances are not only unfavorable to the physical condition of the children, but detrimental to the parent, because such a state of constant activity and anxiety exhausts the vital force. Do you ask the result? Why, the mother dies at an early age, leaving little children in the hands of chance, to be brought up, quite likely,

among the weeds of vice and sin, going from bad to worse, until they become a menace to society. If there had been a day nursery with good conscientious persons at its head, in which these children could have had their physical, mental and moral natures properly cared for at a small cost to the mother, they would have developed into characters with sufficient magnitude to lift humanity to a higher plane, instead of degrading it; and the mother would have no doubt lived out her three score years and ten.

If you will examine the records of the mortality of the Negroes of this city, you will find that about one-third of the deaths occurred among the children, and a closer investigation will disclose the fact that the majority of these deaths occurred in families where parents were obliged to work out and therefore could not detect disease in their little ones until too late to be relieved by medical aid.

I will relate only two of the many cases coming under my observation which make a strong appeal for the establishment of day nurseries. A widowed mother, who worked for a family in this city, had a boy about six years of age. This mother left her little boy alone, asking each morning the family in the adjoining room to have an oversight over him during the day. For several nights when the mother returned from her work between the hours of eight and nine, she found her boy with flushed cheeks, sleeping restlessly. Being tired she did not investigate the cause of this abnormal condition, but attributed it to exhaustion from play. Finally the child's condition became alarming, and one night about nine o'clock the mother took it to the office of a physician. After a careful examination, the mother was told that her child was in the third stage of typhoid fever, and recovery depended upon immediate attention and good nursing. Then the mother, with tears in her eyes, related her sad story.

The other case is that of a boy who went into a physician's office crying, and with his clothes covered with blood. What was the matter? Why, the same old story. The boy had had an artery cut with a stone that was thrown by another boy whose mother was obliged to work away from home, that she might be able to pay her house rent and feed and clothe her children: and but for the interest the physician took in the case, there might have been a dead boy, a lawsuit, and a juvenile criminal; all because of the need of day nurseries.

Another evidence of the need of day nurseries is the large number of boys, almost babies you might say, to be found not only loitering and making mischief in the alleys, but even in the chain-gangs. Many are there because in early childhood they had no one at home to hold them in check, and, yielding to the influences about them, their minds became steeped in sin and vice ; and they grew wise only in the knowledge of petty crimes.

If the absence of day nurseries affected the physical nature only it might not be so alarming, but seeing the effect daily upon the mental and moral natures, and not knowing to what extent these natures may be transmitted to coming generations, we ought to see plainly the necessity of administering the ounce of prevention by establishing day nurseries.

We need an institution where mothers who are obliged to be away from home in order that they may earn an honest living may leave their children and have the satisfaction of knowing that their little minds are lifted above the miry slough and prepared to shun the pitfalls that have been the destruction of many a young life born to be useful.

NEED OF KINDERGARTENS.

BY MRS. ROSA MOREHEAD BASS ('80), ATLANTA, GA.

[NOTE: A movement has already been started among the influential colored people of Atlanta to establish a kindergarten. The plan of the conference has been to discuss only such reforms as were immediately practical and would be dependent only on local co-operation and support.—Ed.]

I could perform no pleasanter duty than to plead for kindergarten schools for the Negro children.

Some twelve years ago we had in Atlanta a model Jones kindergarten, under the care of the A. M. A., so it will not be an experiment with us. Unfortunately it had to be discontinued for want of means. It would have been self-supporting by this time, and would have accomplished untold good.

What a blessing a kindergarten would be to the tired mother who could feel that her little darling was safely housed from harm while she performs her daily duties! For the poor woman who is busy the entire week washing and ironing, it is an impossibility to care properly for her children. A kindergarten would be a rock of refuge to her; and to that mother who goes from home early in the morning and does not return till dark, for her children such a school would be a castle of escape.

I wish to give the "testimony" of three mothers, who are graduates of Atlanta University, and whose husbands are prominent in educational work. These have representative homes—homes of intelligence. Mrs. Wm. E. Holmes, whose husband is a professor in the Atlanta Baptist College, says:

"As I see it, we need kindergarten schools:

"First—Because, as a race, we are incompetent to give our children the training such schools furnish;

"Second—Because such tuition gives the teacher a foundation on which to build. We speak much concerning our progress and it must be admitted that it is great, but if we had had at the beginning of our

career such preliminary education we should be considerably in advance of our present condition;

“Third—Because the impressionable years of early childhood should be turned to matters of importance and permanent value. This is a training which if neglected then can never be supplied. And if we are ever to be an *educated* race that training we must have, for education is our *greatest* need.”

Mrs. Crogman, the wife of Prof. Crogman of Clark University, and the mother of eight children, says:

“In my opinion one of the greatest needs of our people is the establishment of kindergarten schools for the training of our young. In them they can be trained younger than in the primary schools; and in them they are prepared to take hold better of the primary work.”

Mrs. Edgar J. Penney, whose husband is pastor at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, says:

“I am a kindergarten enthusiast, because I believe it is the mother’s greatest help. It opens its doors at the very time when children are most restless and active, and turns that activity, which is miscalled mischief at home, into innocent and pleasant instruction, and thus the process of development of the mind and physical nature begins early. *The State is generous, I know, in educating the young, but she makes the mistake that many parents make in letting the child become bad and then trying to reform it.* The natural order ought to be for the youth to graduate from the kindergarten, then from the primary schools, and so on until the college is reached.

“What a God-send would these children-gardens be to the poor who have little or no time to give to the training of their little ones! I am praying and longing to see the day when free kindergartens will be on the corner of every alley. What a strange idea to wait until a child is six or seven to begin its education, which means books as so many think!

“There are hundreds of things and ideas that a child gets in a kindergarten which are really the beginning of its education, and yet it does not know the book language. It gets acquainted with nature. I cannot tell you how it rejoices me that this most important subject is to be discussed. I wish I could arouse every mother and teacher in this Southland to see the need of saving our children before they

become steeped and dyed in vice, and then attempt to reform them."

The Catholics ask but the first seven years of a child, the formative period, asserting that ideas inculcated during that season cannot be supplanted. Let us apply the wisdom of their experience to our case. The years that need most careful instruction are those entrusted to the tender mercies of the rabble. Innocent eyes read and observe the animate illustrations of vice, innocent ears listen to the rendition of collections of depravity. With these lessons learned the school teacher has to begin to uneducate, but trace what she may upon the palimpsest the first record remains uneffaced.

The *Atlanta Journal* recently said: "This work seems to be the sweetest, the best, the most far-reaching good work that we can do for humanity. Teach a little child goodness and truth, useful facts and bright bits of knowledge, and the father and mother in the lowly homes will soon learn the same lessons from the baby lips."

With all the ardor of an anxious mother I repeat that day homes or kindergartens are a glaring need, an absolute necessity if the masses are to be raised.

Friends, I plead most earnestly for such a school at once, there are so many little children ready and eager to go to the school. Who, oh, who is ready and willing to help us to administer to their wants?

REPORTS FROM CITIES.

[NOTE: It is hoped to make the reports from cities one of the main features of the next conference. A movement has already begun in several cities to form local organizations to make investigations and work along lines suggested by the Atlanta conference. Another year one of the section meetings could be profitably devoted to reports and discussions by the delegates from such organizations. This year we print brief reports from three of these organizations located respectively in Atlanta, New Orleans and Washington.—Ed.]

ATLANTA.

This report was presented to the conference by Prof. Wm. E. Holmes, of the Atlanta Baptist College.

Deeply concerned about the condition of the poor people in Atlanta, for some time Mrs. Georgia Swift King, in a quiet way, had been laboring to better it. Into homes neglected by the fortunate few she had again and again made her way to help the needy. Finding the work growing in dimensions, it occurred to her to enlist the sympathy and assistance of others.

Accordingly, early in the spring, at her suggestion a meeting was called at the residence of Rev. Dr. W. G. Alexander. A number responded, the object of the meeting was stated, discussion was engaged in and an organization was effected, of which Prof. William B. Matthews is the president.

Like similar societies, the object is to study the condition of the lowly and in all possible ways to improve it. The society intends to awaken interest in good reading, to look after female criminals, to seek to raise the standard of home life, and thus tone up the morals and decrease the mortality of the race.

Already mothers' meetings have been held, children have been looked after, and helpful suggestions have been made to the people.

NEW ORLEANS.

Reported by letter by Rev. George W. Henderson to the corresponding secretary of the conference, Mr. George G. Bradford.

I sent you newspaper clippings containing reports of our first two meetings. The third was equally successful. We were fortunate in securing the co-operation and assistance of the mayor of the city and

other equally distinguished citizens of the white race.

These meetings were somewhat experimental. Their success was such as to encourage the continuance of the movement. A committee was appointed to form a permanent organization for the continued investigation and discussion of the various questions concerning our moral and material progress. The central principle of the undertaking differs somewhat from the Atlanta enterprise.

With us the fundamental thing is education. The causes and remedies of mortality are a part of this larger subject. In our city we have little doubt but that the bad sanitary condition of those sections where our people live has much to do with the high death-rate. For this the city is largely responsible. So far as the people themselves are responsible, it is due to poverty and ignorance. Hence our object is to impart knowledge and create the desire for improvement and arouse the spirit of self-help, and our method is to hold popular meetings from time to time in different parts of the city on the one hand, and also affect public sentiment on the other through the press and by committees who shall represent us before the Board of Education, the City Council and the Legislature, and ultimately we hope to extend the movement to all parts of the state.

As to the question of mortality, I hope something may be done along the lines pursued in Atlanta and other cities. My first aim has been to create an interest. I think now I see the way clear to do this particular kind of investigation, and I hope some report may be sent to your third conference next year.

WASHINGTON.

This report was presented to the conference by Mr. L. M. Hershaw.

The Graduate Club of Washington, D. C., is an organization composed of colored graduates of several Northern and Southern colleges. The object of the club is to stimulate study and research among its members. The work outlined so far lies within the province of sociology. During the year just closed the club has been studying the works of Giddings and Fairbanks on sociology. The program for next year contains studies on various phases of the Negro problem, and also several topics of a broadly sociological interest. Prof. Kelly Miller, professor of mathematics in Howard University, is president of the club, which has a membership at present of thirty-three.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

[The following are extracts from a few of the many encouraging letters received from those who sympathize deeply with the purpose of the conference.—Ed.]

From His Excellency, W. Y. ATKINSON, Governor of the State of Georgia :

I have delayed replying to your kind invitation to be with you, hoping that I would be able to comply with your request, but I regret to say that I am now forced to write you that it will be impossible for me to accept.

I sincerely trust that the "Conference on City Problems" will be both profitable and enjoyable.

From MELVILLE W. FULLER, Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court :

I sincerely regret that I find it impossible to attend the conference with reference to the condition of the colored population in our cities, to be held May 25th and 26th.

From FREDERICK HOWARD WINES, LL.D., Editor of the *Charities Review* :

I am very much obliged for your invitation to attend the second conference with reference to the condition of the colored population in the cities of the United States. I regret that my official duties will not permit my absence from home at the date of this meeting.

My word to the conference is simply this: that if the Negro race is ever to be elevated in the social scale, as I believe that it will be, it can only be by self-culture and self-control. Help from the outside will go but a little way. The Negro must realize his manhood and his responsibilities as a man and citizen, and meet them, if he wishes to survive in the struggle for existence. It is absolutely essential that he should receive not only a literary education, but manual training; and that he should cultivate in himself the virtues of industry, thrift, chastity, honesty and temperance. When he learns to respect himself,

his women, the rights of others, and especially the rights of property ; to meet the reasonable expectations of his employers, and to fulfill his contracts both in letter and in spirit, he will command the respect of the world, and his advancement will be both sure and rapid. If race prejudice on the part of the white people towards the colored is to be deplored, so also is race prejudice on the part of the colored people towards the white. The two races must live in peace and harmony, or the weaker race will inevitably go to the wall.

From Hon. C. A. COLLIER, Mayor of the City of Atlanta:

I shall be gone until June 1st, or about that time; consequently I shall be compelled to forego the pleasure of making the address which you desire at your conference on the 25th and 26th of May.

From JOHN F. CROWELL, Professor of Economics and Sociology in Smith College:

I am very deeply interested in the conference proposed to consider the condition of the colored population in our cities, at Atlanta, May 25 and 26. It is a step in the right direction—a step looking toward the selection of the socially safe and the scientifically sound means by which the colored people may avoid the dangers and yet secure the benefits of what is an essentially sympathetic civilization. Though my duties here will prevent my being present I hope that its proceedings will be given widest publicity.

I hope that those who meet to discuss these problems may, if deemed advisable, provide for permanent organization of this movement, so that from year to year the methods and results may be considered in conference. If so, please enroll my name among its members.

From SAMUEL M. LINDSAY, Professor of Finance and Economy, University of Pennsylvania:

I am very glad to know of your Conference on City Problems. The results of your investigation as published in the Bulletin of the Department of Labor are extremely interesting and this conference should be very helpful. I would like to be present, but my duties here at the close of the term are such that I cannot get away now.

Appendix:—A.

The data from which the following tables were compiled were gathered exclusively by representative colored men and women under the direction of Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga. At the suggestion of Col. Carroll D. Wright, Commissioner of the U. S. Department of Labor, the data gathered were turned over to the Department of Labor for tabulation and at his request the university permitted the tables to be published in full in the May Bulletin of the Department of Labor. We reprint here summaries and extracts from these tables.

There were invited to take part in the investigation about 50 graduates of Atlanta University, 30 of Fisk University, and 15 of the colored graduates of Berea, besides the prominent colored doctors, ministers, lawyers, and teachers of the States of Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee, including representatives from all the more prominent institutions for the higher education of the Negro. In all, something over 300 were invited, of whom about 100 volunteered, and of the latter 50 were able to complete their part of the investigation within the time allowed them, which, unfortunately, was very short.

Great credit is due to the investigators for their work in the investigation, for through them its success has been possible. As previously stated, they are all representative colored persons. The following statement shows in detail the name of each person engaged in the work of securing the data, the number of groups investigated by each, and the total number of groups, families and individuals canvassed.

Investigators.	Group No.	Investigators.	Group No.
<i>Athens, Ga.</i>		<i>Jacksonville, Fla.</i>	
Dr. C. S. Haynes.....	15	Dr. W. C. Smalls.....	4
<i>Atlanta, Ga.</i>		Rev. W. E. Partee and L. B. Robinson.....	5
Selena S. Butler.....	1	Prof. William F. Jackson.....	24
Emma L. Holmes.....	2	<i>Louisville, Ky.</i>	
Laura C. Davis.....	3	Prof. Frank L. Williams.....	6
Lilla E. Badger and Mary E. Brittain.....	4	<i>Macon, Ga.</i>	
Mary F. Pullin.....	5	Dr. C. McCarthy.....	7, 30,
Prof. William B. Matthews.....	6, 7		31, 32
Dr. H. R. Butler.....	8	<i>Macon, Miss.</i>	
George A. Towns and Adrienne E. Herndon.....	9	Dr. Daniel W. Sherrod.....	8
Julia M. Brown.....	10	<i>Nashville, Tenn.</i>	
Mattie A. Ford.....	11	Prof. Eugene Harris.....	1, 2, 3,
Alice D. Carey.....	12		4, 5, 6,
Georgia S. King.....	13	Hon. J. C. Napier.....	7, 8, 9
Rev. Henry H. Proctor.....	14		10
Nellie E. Crawford.....	15	<i>Orangeburg, S. C.</i>	
Mary E. Keller.....	16	N. J. Frederick and Chas. H. Johnson.....	9
<i>Birmingham, Ala.</i>		Frank B. Johnson.....	10
Dr. A. M. Brown.....	1, 16	<i>Sanford, Fla.</i>	
<i>Cambridge, Mass.</i>		William C. McLester.....	11
Butler R. Wilson.....	1	<i>Savannah, Ga.</i>	
<i>Cartersville, Ga.</i>		Dr. C. McKane.....	12
Albert B. Cooper.....	2	Sarah J. Butler.....	21
<i>Chattanooga, Tenn.</i>		Rev. R. R. Downs.....	25, 26, 27
Rev. Joseph E. Smith.....	17	<i>Tuskegee, Ala.</i>	
<i>Columbia, S. C.</i>		Rev. E. J. Penney.....	13, 28
Dr. C. C. Johnson.....	18, 19, 20	<i>Washington, D. C.</i>	
<i>Jackson, Tenn.</i>		Dr. Furman J. Shadd.....	14
Prof. A. R. Merry.....	3	Maggie R. Bowen.....	22
		Dr. W. Bruce Evans.....	23
		C. L. Franklin.....	29

NUMBER OF GROUPS, FAMILIES, AND INDIVIDUALS CANVASSED.

City.	Gro'ps.	Fami- lies.	Indi- vidu'ls.	City.	Gro'ps.	Fami- lies.	Indi- vidu'ls.
Atlanta, Ga.	16	324	1,292	Orangeburg, S. C.	2	22	109
Nashville, Tenn.	10	246	1,090	Sanford, Fla.	1	24	116
Cambridge, Mass.	1	98	366	Athens, Ga.	1	16	73
Savannah, Ga.	5	96	380	Cartersville, Ga.	1	10	53
Washington, D. C.	4	66	293	Louisville, Ky.	1	15	70
Macon, Ga.	4	30	90	Macon, Miss.	1	17	64
Jacksonville, Fla.	3	77	327	Chattanooga, Tenn.	1	21	89
Columbia, S. C.	3	15	81	Jackson, Tenn.	1	22	67
Birmingham, Ala.	2	17	63				
Tuskegee, Ala.	2	21	119	Total	59	1,137	4,742

The investigation was carried to completion in 18 cities, all except one of which are located in the Southern States. The effort to secure schedules for several groups of colored people in each of the smaller cities and for a larger number of groups in cities of greater size and importance was quite successful, as the preceding statement shows. Great care was taken in the selection of groups and in securing data in Atlanta, Ga., Nashville, Tenn., and Cambridge, Mass., and it is to the tabulation for these cities that we must look for the most representative and accurate showing of the condition of the Negro so far as this investigation is concerned. The tabulation of the data for 32 groups in the other cities canvassed is presented mainly for the value it may have in corroborating the facts presented for the 16 groups in Atlanta, the 10 groups in Nashville, and the single group in Cambridge. The data for the 32 groups in other cities have doubtless been gathered with quite as much care in most cases, but the same care could not be exercised in the selection of the 32 groups to be investigated as in the cities for which a separate statement is made.

Allusion has been made to "groups" in some of the previous statements, and an explanation is probably necessary in order that the reader may have an accurate knowledge of just what is meant by the term in this connection. It was not possible to secure data from any large portion of the population or for any large section of the cities involved in the investigation, owing to the fact that in no instance was there any remuneration given to investigators for the work performed, it being purely voluntary and usually performed by persons with so many other interests that but a part of their time could be devoted to this work. For this reason it was decided to select one or more groups of from 10 to 20 houses standing together in the portions of the city which were thought to be representative of the various conditions of the Negro in that locality. Each of these collections of houses has been termed a group.

In the tabular presentations which follow, the cities embraced in the investigation have been arranged in four divisions in each summary table, and the same order is followed in the tables which give more detailed information, as follows: Sixteen groups in Atlanta, Ga.; 10 groups in Nashville, Tenn.; 1 group in Cambridge, Mass.; and 32 groups in other cities. Under each of these divisions the groups have been arranged according to their condition and the character of their surroundings, whether good, fair, or bad. In the first division, comprising the 16 groups for Atlanta, Ga., groups 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 may be classed as good; groups 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 as fair; and groups 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 as bad. In the second division, comprising 10 groups in Nashville, Tenn., group 1 may be classed as good; groups 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 as fair; and group 10 as bad. In the third division, the single group in Cambridge, Mass., may be classed as fair. In the fourth division, groups 1 to 14 are classed as good; groups 15 to 23 as fair; and groups 24 to 29 as bad; the condition of groups 30, 31, and 32 not being reported. The groups in this fourth division are located as follows: Group 1 in Birmingham, Ala.; group 2 in Cartersville, Ga.; group 3 in Jackson, Tenn.; groups 4 and 5 in Jacksonville, Fla.; group 6 in Louisville, Ky.; group 7 in Macon, Ga.; group 8 in Macon, Miss.; groups 9 and 10 in Orangeburg, S. C.; group 11 in Sanford, Fla.; group 12 in Savannah, Ga.; group 13 in Tuskegee, Ala.; group 14 in Washington, D. C.; group 15 in Athens, Ga.; group 16 in Birmingham, Ala.; group 17 in Chattanooga, Tenn.; groups 18, 19, and 20 in Columbia, S. C.; group 21 in Savannah, Ga.; groups 22 and 23 in Washington, D. C.; group 24 in Jacksonville, Fla.; groups 25, 26, and 27 in Savannah, Ga.; group 28 in Tuskegee, Ala.; group 29 in Washington, D. C.; and groups 30, 31, and 32 in Macon, Ga.

TABLE 1.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF PERSONS OF EACH RELATIONSHIP.

Relationship to head of family.	Atlanta, Ga., 16 groups.		Nashville, Tenn., 10 groups.		Cambridge, Mass., 1 group.		Other cities, 32 groups.		All groups.	
	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.
Heads of families.....	537	41.57	442	40.55	178	48.63	817	40.97	1,974	41.63
Children.....	609	47.14	486	44.59	152	41.53	920	46.14	2,167	45.70
Parents.....	22	1.70	30	2.75	4	1.09	44	2.21	100	2.11
Brothers and sisters.....	33	2.55	46	4.22	17	4.65	42	2.11	138	2.91
Grandchildren.....	33	2.55	25	2.29	1	.27	54	2.71	113	2.38
Nephews and nieces.....	13	1.01	20	1.84			37	1.85	70	1.47
Boarders.....	26	2.01	9	.83	1	.27	16	.80	52	1.10
Lodgers.....	12	.93	24	2.20	11	3.01	44	2.21	91	1.92
Other relationships..	7	.54	8	.73	2	.55	20	1.00	37	.78
Total.....	1,292	100.00	1,090	100.00	366	100.00	1,994	100.00	4,742	100.00

TABLE 2.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF FAMILIES OF EACH SPECIFIED SIZE.

Size of families.	Atlanta, Ga., 16 groups.		Nashville, Tenn., 10 groups.		Cambridge, Mass., 1 group.		Other cities, 32 groups.		All groups.	
	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.	Num- ber.	Per- cent.
1 person.....	22	6.79	5	2.04	5	5.10	22	4.69	54	4.75
2 persons.....	65	20.06	44	17.89	25	25.51	84	17.91	218	19.17
3 persons.....	76	23.46	38	15.45	23	23.47	103	21.96	240	21.11
4 persons.....	48	14.82	46	18.67	18	18.37	86	18.34	198	17.41
5 persons.....	42	12.96	53	21.55	14	14.29	57	12.15	166	14.60
6 persons.....	27	8.33	21	8.54	2	2.04	36	7.68	86	7.56
7 persons.....	22	6.79	18	7.32	4	4.08	38	8.10	82	7.21
8 persons.....	9	2.78	12	4.88	5	5.10	17	3.63	43	3.78
9 persons.....	8	2.47	5	2.03			13	2.77	26	2.29
10 persons.....	5	1.54	3	1.22	2	2.04	12	2.56	22	1.94
Over 10 persons.....			1	.41			1	.21	2	.18
Total.....	324	100.00	246	100.00	98	100.00	469	100.00	1,137	100.00

TABLE 3.—AVERAGE SIZE OF FAMILY, BY CITIES.

Cities.	Total families.	Total persons.	Average size of family.
Atlanta, Ga.....	324	1,292	3.99
Nashville, Tenn.....	246	1,090	4.43
Cambridge, Mass.....	98	366	3.73
Other cities.....	469	1,994	4.25
Total.....	1,137	4,742	4.17

It will be seen from the above table that for all the families investigated the average number of persons per family in Atlanta, Ga., was found to be 3.99; in Nashville, Tenn., 4.43; in Cambridge, Mass., 3.73; in the other cities, 4.25; and in all the cities covered by the investigation, 4.17. Comparison with the returns of the census of 1890 in the cases of the first three cities, returns for all the others not being given, shows that for the entire population of these cities, including both white and colored, the average size of family was considerably larger, viz., for Atlanta 4.91, Nashville 4.92, and Cambridge 4.95.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF PERSONS UNDER EACH AGE PERIOD.

Age periods.	Atlanta, Ga., 16 groups.		Nashville, Tenn., 10 groups.		Cambridge, Mass., 1 group.		Other cities, 32 groups.		All groups.	
	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.
Under 10 years.....	290	22.44	212	19.45	90	24.59	419	21.01	1,011	21.32
10 to 19 years.....	315	24.38	274	25.14	67	18.31	452	22.67	1,108	23.37
20 to 29 years.....	235	18.19	190	17.43	91	24.86	404	20.26	920	19.40
30 to 39 years.....	209	16.18	141	12.94	64	17.49	280	14.04	694	14.64
40 to 49 years.....	112	8.67	115	10.55	32	8.74	222	11.13	481	10.14
50 to 59 years.....	70	5.42	91	8.35	18	4.92	119	5.97	298	6.28
60 years or over.....	56	4.33	66	6.05	3	.82	72	3.61	197	4.15
Age unknown.....	5	.39	1	.09	1	.27	26	1.31	33	.70
Total.....	1,292	100.00	1,090	100.00	366	100.00	1,994	100.00	4,742	100.00

TABLE 5.—AVERAGE PERSONS PER SLEEPING ROOM.

Cities.	Families having to each sleeping room an average of—						Total fami- lies.	Aver- age pers'ns to a sleep- ing- room.
	Under 1 per- son.	1 or under 2 per- sons.	2 or under 3 per- sons.	3 or under 4 per- sons.	4 or under 5 per- sons.	5 per- sons or over.		
Atlanta, Ga.....	6	94	119	65	26	14	324	2.22
Nashville, Tenn.....	1	54	114	35	21	21	246	2.44
Cambridge, Mass. (a).....		34	49	11	1	1	96	1.96
Other cities (a).....	14	147	177	81	31	17	467	2.05
Total (b).....	21	329	459	192	79	53	1,133	2.17

a Not including 2 families not reporting sleeping-rooms.

b Not including 4 families not reporting sleeping-rooms.

TABLE 6.—ROOMS PER FAMILY.

Cities.	Families living in—										Not re- port- ed.	Total fami- lies.
	1 ro'm.	2 ro'ns.	3 ro'ns.	4 ro'ns.	5 ro'ns.	6 ro'ns.	7 ro'ns.	8 ro'ns.	9 ro'ns.	10 ro'ns or over.		
Atlanta, Ga.....	a58	a116	84	25	17	16	4	2	1	1	..	324
Nashville, Tenn.....	9	55	124	34	14	5	1	2	1	1	..	246
Cambridge, M's.....	5	7	28	21	18	7	6	4	..	..	2	98
Other cities.....	45	98	72	117	63	33	18	9	5	6	3	469
Total.....	117	276	308	197	112	61	29	17	7	8	5	1,137

a Including one family having an additional half-room.

The following extract is from Table IV of the May Bulletin of the U. S. Department of Labor, showing method of compilation of data on household conditions of Negroes; giving the condition of each family in detail. The complete table includes 1,137 families.

EXTRACT FROM TABLE IV.—HOUSEHOLD CONDITIONS, BY FAMILIES.

ATLANTA, GA.—16 GROUPS.

GROUP 1.

[O. H. indicates that the family own the house in which they live.]

Family No.	Persons.		Rooms.		Monthly rent.	Family No.	Persons.		Rooms.		Monthly rent.
	Male.	Female.	Sleeping.	Other.			Male.	Female.	Sleeping.	Other.	
1.....	2	2	2		\$3 00	11.....	4	1	3	3	\$13.50
2.....	3	1	1	1	3.00	12.....	1	2	3	3	13.80
3.....	1	1	1	1	4.00	13.....	1	3	2	2	6.40
4.....	1	1	1	1	4.00	14.....	2	3	2	1	6.40
5.....	2	3	4	2	10.00	15.....	1	1	1	3	O. H.
6.....	1	2	2	2	8.30	16.....	3	2	3	3	O. H.
7.....	1	2	2	2	O. H.	17.....	2	2	2	1	10.00
8.....	2	1	4	5	O. H.	18.....	3	4	3	2	O. H.
9.....	5	5	4	3	O. H.	19.....	2	5	3	3	O. H.
10.....	1	1	2	3	O. H.						

The following extract is from Table V of same report showing same data by groups. For complete tables see above-mentioned report.

EXTRACT FROM TABLE V.—HOUSEHOLD CONDITIONS, BY GROUPS.

ATLANTA, GA.—16 GROUPS.

Group number.	Families.	Persons.		Rooms.				Families.			Average monthly rent per family.
		Male.	Female.	Sleeping.		Other.		Own- ing house.	Paying rent.	Not re- porting as to rent.	
				Number.	Average persons to each.	Number.	Average persons to each.				
1	19	38	42	45	1.78	41	1.85	8	11	.....	\$7.49
2	27	52	58	49	2.24	41	2.07	16	10	1	5.10
3	19	31	43	30	2.47	21	2.57	4	15	.....	4.60
4	15	25	35	23	2.61	4	3.25	.....	15	.....	3.27
5	25	37	49	46	1.87	38	1.89	10	15	.....	4.50
6	17	36	39	35	2.14	9	3.67	.....	17	.....	3.29
7	18	36	36	40	1.80	25	2.40	11	7	.....	5.04
8	24	35	58	41	2.27	18	3.50	.....	24	.....	5.83
9	26	50	54	59	1.76	42	2.21	9	16	a 1	5.85
10.....	21	44	44	38	2.32	10	3.20	6	15	.....	4.00
11.....	21	48	51	42	2.36	23	3.65	7	14	.....	3.32
12.....	24	39	50	30	2.97	3	3.00	.....	24	.....	2.59
13.....	20	42	41	37	2.24	10	3.30	1	19	.....	4.79
14.....	16	14	35	19	2.58	2	2.00	.....	16	.....	2.55
15.....	16	32	35	25	2.68	13	3.62	.....	16	.....	3.63
16	16	25	38	22	2.86	6	3.33	1	15	.....	3.70
Total.	324	584	708	581	2.22	306	2.54	73	249	b 2	\$4.25

a Rent free.

b Including one family living rent free.

The following extract is from Table VI of same report showing in detail occupation and earnings by families for the 1,137 families covered by the investigation.

EXTRACT FROM TABLE VI.—OCCUPATIONS AND EARNINGS, BY FAMILIES.

ATLANTA, GA.—16 GROUPS.

GROUP 1.

Family No.	Head of family.				Children.					
	Occupation.	Weeks employed.	Average weekly earnings.	How subsisted when unemployed.	House wife.	At work.	At work and at school.	Earnings for the year.	At sch'ol.	At h'me.
1	Seamstress (<i>a</i>)	<i>a</i> 16	<i>a</i> \$4.00	Savings		1	2	\$258		
2	Bricklayer	50	12.00	Savings	1					2
3	Employee, printing office.	26	6.00	Savings	1					
4	Drayman	50	5.00	Savings	1					
5	Merchant, wood (<i>b</i>)	<i>b</i> 24	<i>b</i> 7.00		1	<i>c</i> 1		<i>c</i> 40		2
6	Tailor (<i>d</i>)	<i>d</i> 44	<i>d</i> 3.50		1	1		(<i>c</i>)		
7	Coachman	52	5.00		1				1	
8	Waiter	52	10.00			<i>f</i> 2		<i>f</i> 594		
9	Teacher, private sch'l	52	10.00		1		1	16	6	1
10	Physician	52	25.00		1					
11	Clergyman	52	12.50		1				3	
12	Dentist	52	20.00		1					<i>c</i> 1
13	Waiter	52	5.00		1					2
14	Waiter	52	5.00		1					3
15	Wheelwright	52	11.00			<i>g</i> 1		<i>g</i> 132		
16	Hack owner and capitalist.	52	300.00		1				2	1
17	Porter	49	8.00	Savings	1	<i>c</i> 1		<i>c</i> 130	1	
18	Bishop A. M. E. Ch.	52	41.66		1	1	1	261	3	
19	Proprietor, restaurant (<i>h</i>).	<i>h</i> 12	<i>h</i> 17.00		1	<i>c</i> 1		<i>c</i> 364	2	<i>i</i> 2

a Also employed 36 weeks as sick nurse, no pay. *e* Not reported.
b Also employed 28 weeks as waiter at \$10 per week. *f* Wife and child.
c Mother. *g* Wife.
d Also employed 8 weeks as hotel waiter at \$3.50 per week. *h* Also employed 40 weeks as bank porter at \$10 per week.
i Child and mother.

The following is a valuable summary as showing the industrial position of women.

TABLE 7.—NUMBER OF FAMILIES AND MEANS OF SUPPORT.

By whom supported.	Atlanta, Ga., 16 groups.	Nashville, Tenn., 10 groups.	Cambridge, Mass., 1 group.	Other cities, 32 groups.	Total families.
Head, male	73	60	40	131	304
Head, male, and male children	10	14	4	15	43
Head, male, and female children	4	3	1	8	16
Head, male, and male and female children	7	4	..	8	19
Head, female	31	13	4	41	89
Head, female, and male children	11	7	3	11	32
Head, female, and female children	10	4	1	16	31
Head, female, and male and female children	12	5	1	5	23
Heads, male and female	84	51	22	98	255
Heads, male and female, and male children	12	19	1	19	51
Heads, male and female, and female children	5	7	..	19	31
Heads, male and female, and male and female children	4	2	1	18	25
Head, male, and others	18	21	9	24	72
Head, female, and others	22	8	2	23	55
Heads, male and female, and others	14	15	8	21	58
Others, male	1	7	1	4	13
Others, female	6	6	..	8	20
Total	324	246	98	469	1,137

TABLE 8.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF PERSONS SICK DURING THE YEAR.

Name of ailment.	Atlanta, Ga., 16 groups.		Nashville, Tenn., 10 groups.		Cambridge, Mass., 1 group.		Other cities, 32 groups.		Total.	
	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.
Consumption.....	2	0.45	5	1.07	.....	.....	7	1.08	14	0.84
Pneumonia.....	20	4.53	14	2.99	4	3.74	10	1.54	48	2.88
Total.....	22	4.98	19	4.06	4	3.74	17	2.62	62	3.72
Cholera infantum.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Convulsions.....	2	.45	.....	.....	1	.93	3	.46	6	.36
Total.....	2	.45	.....	.....	1	.93	3	.46	6	.36
Typhoid fever.....	10	2.27	5	1.07	5	4.68	2	.31	22	1.32
Scarlet fever.....	2	.45	1	.21	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.18
Malarial fever.....	50	11.31	43	9.19	1	.93	195	30.09	289	17.36
Diarrhea.....	.....	.....	6	1.28	3	2.81	2	.31	11	.66
Diphtheria.....	.....	.....	5	1.07	1	.93	.....	.....	6	.36
Total.....	62	14.03	60	12.82	10	9.35	199	30.71	331	19.88
Syphilis.....	.....	.....	2	.43	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.12
Scrofula.....	3	.68	16	3.42	.....	.....	2	.31	21	1.26
Total.....	3	.68	18	3.85	.....	.....	2	.31	23	1.38
Other ailments.....	353	79.86	371	79.27	92	85.98	427	65.90	1,243	74.66
Grand total.....	442	100.00	468	100.00	107	100.00	648	100.00	1,665	100.00

TABLE 9.—NUMBER AND PER CENT OF DEATHS DURING PAST FIVE YEARS,
BY CAUSES.

Causes.	Atlanta, Ga., 16 groups.		Nashville, Tenn., 10 groups.		Cambridge, Mass., 1 group.		Other cities, 32 groups.		Total deaths.	
	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.	Num- ber.	Per cent.
Consumption.....	17	9.34	32	24.06	8	15.38	35	12.77	92	14.35
Pneumonia.....	23	12.64	7	5.26	8	15.38	19	6.94	57	8.89
Total.....	40	21.98	39	29.32	16	30.76	54	19.71	149	23.24
Cholera infantum.....	7	3.84	4	3.01	1	1.92	10	3.65	22	3.43
Convulsions.....	3	1.65	2	1.50	3	5.77	9	3.28	17	2.65
Still-births.....	4	2.20	5	3.76	10	19.23	10	3.65	29	4.53
Total.....	14	7.69	11	8.27	14	26.92	29	10.58	68	10.61
Typhoid fever.....	5	2.74	3	2.26	2	3.85	4	1.46	14	2.19
Scarlet fever.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.73	2	.31
Malarial fever.....	3	1.65	7	5.26	.....	.....	15	5.47	25	3.90
Diarrhea.....	2	1.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.31
Diphtheria.....	4	2.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.62
Total.....	14	7.69	10	7.52	2	3.85	21	7.66	47	7.33
Syphilis.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scrofula.....	3	1.65	2	1.51	2	3.85	1	.37	8	1.25
Total.....	3	1.65	2	1.51	2	3.85	1	.37	8	1.25
Other causes.....	111	60.99	71	53.38	18	34.62	169	61.68	369	57.57
Grand total.....	182	100.00	133	100.00	52	100.00	274	100.00	641	100.00

NOTE:—The following table is very instructive, but deductions from it should be made with great care. It is intended to show the effects of sanitary conditions upon the health of the community, but the results obtained are not conclusive, for the increased amount of sickness in families living under unfavorable sanitary conditions can not be attributed entirely to such conditions, as a certain proportion of it must be attributed to the more irregular habits of life of those families which are content to live under such unfavorable conditions. The same incompetency which prevents a family from making material progress and securing for itself good accommodations also prevents its resisting disease. We generally find ill health and poverty together, one the cause of the other, but quite as often both the result of a common cause, such as intemperance, immorality, ignorance, or some moral or intellectual weakness.

TABLE 10.—SICKNESS, BY SANITARY CONDITION OF HOUSES.

ATLANTA, GA.—16 GROUPS.

Sanitary condition of houses.	Number of persons.	Persons sick during year.		Days of sickness.		
		Number.	Per cent.	Persons reporting.	Total.	Average.
Light and air:						
Good	577	163	28.25	128	5,819	45.46
Fair	348	126	36.21	104	6,268	60.27
Bad	367	120	32.70	102	4,361	42.75
Ventilation:						
Good	537	153	28.49	124	5,927	47.80
Fair	328	102	31.10	77	4,471	58.06
Bad	427	154	36.07	133	6,050	45.49
Cleanliness:						
Good	426	122	28.64	97	5,259	54.22
Fair	527	177	33.59	141	5,588	39.63
Bad	339	110	32.45	96	5,601	58.34
Outside sanitary condition:						
Good	439	122	27.79	103	4,941	47.97
Fair	264	80	30.30	61	2,676	43.87
Bad	589	207	35.14	170	8,831	51.95

NASHVILLE, TENN.—10 GROUPS.

Light and air:						
Good	489	194	39.67	99	3,284	33.17
Fair	404	172	42.57	114	3,734	32.75
Bad	197	76	38.58	46	1,414	30.74
Ventilation:						
Good	471	181	38.43	92	3,346	36.37
Fair	290	106	36.55	61	2,103	34.48
Bad	329	155	47.11	106	2,983	28.14
Cleanliness:						
Good	381	144	37.80	73	2,078	28.47
Fair	345	131	37.97	79	3,026	38.30
Bad	364	167	45.88	107	3,328	31.10
Outside sanitary condition:						
Good	413	158	38.25	86	2,879	33.48
Fair	452	191	42.26	116	3,929	33.87
Bad	225	93	41.33	57	1,624	28.49

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.—1 GROUP.

Light and air:						
Good	159	29	18.24	25	1,214	48.56
Fair	173	47	27.17	39	1,623	41.62
Bad	34	6	17.65	6	492	82.00
Ventilation:						
Good	133	28	21.05	26	1,073	41.27
Fair	102	19	18.63	16	1,162	72.63
Bad	131	35	26.72	28	1,094	39.07
Cleanliness:						
Good	80	14	17.50	12	697	58.08
Fair	225	57	25.33	48	2,129	41.35
Bad	61	11	18.03	10	503	50.30
Outside sanitary condition:						
Good	116	29	25.00	27	988	36.59
Fair	78	11	14.10	11	819	74.45
Bad	172	42	24.42	32	1,522	47.56

OTHER CITIES—29 GROUPS.

[Three groups and three families are not included, as sanitary condition of houses was not reported.]

Sanitary condition of houses.	Number of persons.	Persons sick during year.		Days of sickness.		
		Number.	Per cent.	Persons reporting.	Total.	Average.
Light and air:						
Good	1,081	246	22.76	173	7,861	45.44
Fair	547	211	38.57	143	4,566	31.93
Bad	308	114	37.01	86	4,450	51.74
Ventilation:						
Good	1,087	271	24.93	194	8,849	45.61
Fair	536	180	33.58	116	3,577	30.84
Bad	313	120	38.34	92	4,451	48.38
Cleanliness:						
Good	1,127	257	22.80	171	6,458	37.77
Fair	483	192	39.75	132	5,000	37.88
Bad	326	122	37.42	99	5,419	54.74
Outside sanitary condition:						
Good	919	230	25.03	165	5,638	34.17
Fair	689	215	31.20	147	7,141	48.58
Bad	328	126	38.41	90	4,098	45.53

TABLE 11.—SANITARY CONDITION OF HOUSES.
ATLANTA, GA.—16 GROUPS.

Group number.	Number of houses having—											
	Light and air.			Ventilation.			Cleanliness.			Outside sanitary condition.		
	Good.	Fair.	Bad.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
1	14	.....	1	14	1	.....	14	1	.....	14	1	.....
2	20	1	1	17	4	1	15	6	1	18	4	.....
3	9	5	1	9	5	1	9	2	4	9	3	3
4 .....	.....	15	.....	.....	15	.....	6	4	5	.....	.....	15
5	5	12	7	5	12	7	9	12	3	16	6	2
6 .....	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	17
7	15	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	15	.....	.....
8	1	9	5	1	10	4	1	10	4	1	3	11
9	22	.....	.....	21	1	.....	18	2	2	18	3	1
10	4	5	9	1	5	12	5	10	3	8	1	9
11	18	.....	.....	17	1	.....	11	7	.....	11	7	.....
12	5	3	14	5	4	.....	6	4	12	1	6	15
13	3	8	7	.....	.....	18	3	6	9	.....	3	15
14	1	15	.....	4	7	5	.....	4	12	.....	4	12
15 .....	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	15	.....	13	2	.....	.....	15
16	3	7	5	3	8	4	1	9	5	.....	.....	15
Total	120	80	82	112	73	97	98	105	79	96	56	130

NASHVILLE, TENN.—10 GROUPS.

1	14	4	5	17	3	3	8	7	8	11	9	3
2	13	5	7	12	6	7	11	7	7	10	10	5
3	13	9	3	11	12	2	11	11	3	11	13	1
4	10	11	4	11	10	4	9	7	9	10	6	9
5	14	10	1	15	8	2	12	10	3	13	10	2
6	8	11	2	9	9	3	7	8	6	9	5	7
7	18	3	3	16	.....	8	16	1	7	16	8	.....
8	11	11	2	11	1	12	11	2	11	12	11	1
9	9	11	5	5	8	12	5	10	10	6	14	5
10 .....	.....	18	7	.....	9	16	.....	11	14	.....	13	12
Total	110	93	39	107	66	69	90	74	78	98	99	45

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.--1 GROUP.

Group number.	Number of houses having—											
	Light and air.			Ventilation.			Cleanliness.			Outside sanitary condition.		
	Go'd.	Fair.	Bad.	Go'd.	Fair.	Bad.	Go'd.	Fair.	Bad.	Go'd.	Fair.	Bad.
1.....	43	46	8	37	29	31	25	56	16	30	21	46

OTHER CITIES--32 GROUPS.

1.....	8			8			7	1		4	4	
2.....	5	4		6	3		4	4	1	4	4	
3.....	7	8	2	6	8	3	9	7	1	8	9	
4.....	18			18			17	1		17		1
5.....	26	1		27			27			27		
6.....	10	2	1	8	4	1	11	1	1	11	1	1
7.....	1	9		9	1		9	1	1	3	1	6
8.....	6	5	6	8	3	6	8	7	2	11	5	1
9.....	11	4	1	6	9	1	10	4	2	4	10	2
10.....		6		6			1	4	1		6	
11.....	4	15	5	7	12	5	13	6	5	13	6	5
12.....	14	4	1	3	16		14	5		13	6	
13.....	4		2	4		2	4		2	4		2
14.....	15			15			15				15	
15.....	8	6	2	10	4	2	9	4	3	7	8	1
16.....	2		2	2		2	2		2	3		1
17.....	8	5	3	10	4	2	5	8	3	5	4	7
18.....	4			3	1			3	1	2	1	1
19.....	3		1	4				3	1	2	2	
20.....	1	3	1	4		1	1	2	2	3	1	1
21.....		13	5		13	5	4	8	6		13	5
22.....	13	2		13	2		13	2		13	2	
23.....	9	4	2	9	3	3	12	2	1	10	3	2
24.....	6	13		18		1	14		5		19	
25.....	11	4	1	10	5	1	12	4		3	13	
26.....	a 2	a 2	a 4	a 3	a 1	a 4	a 4	a 2	a 2	a 1	a 7	(a)
27.....	(a)	a 4	a 17	a 1	a 3	a 17	a 4	a 8	a 9	(a)	(a)	a 21
28.....	10	1	2	11		2	12		1	12		1
29.....	8	1	1		8	2	3	6	1	3	5	2
30.....	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
31.....	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
32.....	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Total.....	c 214	c 116	c 59	c 220	c 108	c 61	c 235	c 101	c 53	c 183	c 145	c 61

a Not including one house, not reported.

b Not reported.

c See preceding notes.

Appendix:—B.

A compilation of data from the health reports of various cities, made by Mr. L. M. Hershaw, of Washington, D. C., an alumnus of Atlanta University, follows, and it is believed that they afford very accurate information concerning the deaths, etc., in the cities for which the necessary official reports were available.

Mr. Hershaw's work included the cities of Atlanta, Baltimore, Charleston, Memphis and Richmond. We print in full the tables for Atlanta, one table for Charleston and one for Baltimore; for lack of space we omit other tables. For explanation of these tables see paper by Mr. Hershaw, page 10.

This work is to be continued by Mr. Hershaw during the coming year.

TABLE a.—AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 AND EXCESS AND PER CENT OF EXCESS OF COLORED FOR THREE PERIODS OF YEARS, BY CITIES.

City.	First period.				Second period.				Third period.			
	W ^h ite.	Col-ored.	Excess of colored.		W ^h ite.	Col-ored.	Excess of colored.		W ^h ite.	Col-ored.	Excess of colored.	
			No.	Per cent.			No.	Per cent.			No.	Per cent.
Atlanta.....	18.22	37.96	19.74	108.41	19.25	33.41	14.16	73.51	18.03	32.76	14.73	81.65
Baltimore....	22.60	36.15	13.55	59.92	19.46	30.52	11.06	56.87	20.01	31.47	11.46	57.24
Charleston...	25.40	44.08	18.68	73.52	22.30	46.74	24.44	109.63	21.88	41.43	19.55	89.39
Memphis...	26.08	43.01	16.93	64.95	21.49	29.35	7.86	36.59	14.17	21.11	6.94	48.95
Richmond....	22.42	40.34	17.92	79.98	21.37	38.83	17.46	81.74	18.42	34.91	16.49	89.54

TABLE b.—POPULATION, DEATHS, AND DEATH RATE PER 1,000, ATLANTA, GA., 1882 TO 1895.

Year.	Population.		Total deaths.		Deaths per 1,000.			
	White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	Excess of colored.	
							No.	Per cent.
1882.....	23,639	18,202	392	630	16.58	34.61	18.03	198.75
1883.....	25,034	19,217	500	735	19.97	38.25	18.28	91.54
1884.....	26,511	20,289	497	785	18.75	38.69	19.94	106.35
1885.....	28,075	21,420	492	854	17.52	39.87	22.35	127.57
Average.....	25,815	19,782	470	751	18.22	37.96	19.74	108.41
1886.....	29,732	22,615	446	541	15.10	23.92	8.82	58.41
1887.....	31,486	23,876	680	815	21.60	34.13	12.53	58.01
1888.....	33,344	25,207	646	886	19.37	35.15	15.78	81.47
1889.....	35,311	26,613	653	949	18.49	35.66	17.17	92.86
1890.....	37,416	28,098	793	1,032	21.19	36.73	15.54	73.34
Average.....	33,458	25,282	644	845	19.25	33.41	14.16	73.51
1891.....	39,623	29,665	827	1,167	20.87	39.34	18.47	88.50
1892.....	41,961	31,319	805	1,085	19.18	34.64	15.46	80.60
1893.....	44,437	33,066	813	1,107	18.30	33.48	15.18	82.95
1894.....	47,058	34,910	691	947	14.68	27.13	12.45	84.81
1895.....	49,835	36,857	884	1,126	17.74	30.55	12.81	72.21
Average.....	44,583	33,163	804	1,086	18.03	32.76	14.73	81.65

TABLE c.—DEATHS AND DEATH RATE PER 1,000 OF TOTAL POPULATION OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE, ATLANTA, GA., 1882 TO 1895.

Year.	Total deaths.		Deaths per 1,000.			
	White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	Excess of colored.	
					Number.	Per cent.
1882.....	163	264	6.90	14.50	7.60	110.15
1883.....	194	339	7.75	17.64	9.89	127.61
1884.....	163	319	6.15	15.72	9.57	155.61
1885.....	167	329	5.95	15.26	9.41	158.15
Average.....	172	313	6.65	15.81	9.16	137.74
1886.....	160	257	5.38	11.36	5.98	111.15
1887.....	264	332	8.38	13.91	5.53	165.99
1888.....	206	337	6.18	13.37	7.19	116.34
1889.....	205	364	5.81	13.68	7.87	135.46
1890.....	287	451	7.67	16.05	8.38	109.26
Average....	224	348	6.71	13.77	7.06	105.22
1891.....	264	403	6.66	13.59	6.93	104.05
1892.....	276	403	6.58	12.87	6.29	95.59
1893.....	251	421	5.65	12.73	7.08	125.31
1894.....	218	303	4.63	8.68	4.05	87.47
1895.....	276	401	5.54	10.88	5.34	96.39
Average.....	257	386	5.76	11.65	5.89	102.26

TABLE d.—AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 10,000, ATLANTA, GA., FOR THE PERIODS 1882 TO 1885, 1886 TO 1890, 1891 TO 1895, BY CAUSES.

Causes.	1882 to 1885.				1886 to 1890.				1891 to 1895.			
	White.	Colored.	Excess of colored.		White.	Colored.	Excess of colored.		White.	Colored.	Excess of colored.	
			Num-ber.	Per cent.			Num-ber.	Per cent.			Num-ber.	Per cent.
Consumption...	18.40	50.20	31.80	172.83	18.83	45.88	27.05	143.65	16.82	43.48	26.66	158.50
Pneumonia.....	9.03	26.69	17.66	195.57	11.30	26.26	14.96	132.39	11.66	32.27	20.61	176.76
Total.....	27.43	76.89	49.46	180.31	30.13	72.14	42.01	139.43	28.48	75.75	47.27	165.98
Cholera infantum.....	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	12.43	23.10	10.67	85.84	7.63	15.26	7.63	100.00
Still-births.....	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	14.35	32.99	18.64	129.90	17.36	38.60	21.24	122.35
Total.....	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	26.78	56.09	29.31	109.45	24.99	53.86	28.87	115.53
Typhoid fever...	8.64	17.09	8.45	97.80	10.70	11.07	.37	3.46	7.31	9.83	2.52	34.47
Scarlet fever...	.31	.15	b .16	b 106.67	1.25	.32	b .93	b 290.63	1.61	.12	b 1.49	b 1,241.67
Malarial fever...	.97	1.92	.95	97.94	1.61	5.46	3.85	239.13	.45	2.17	1.72	382.22
Diphtheria.....	1.66	.15	b 1.51	b 1,006.67	1.02	.32	b .70	b 218.75	1.35	.36	b .99	b 275.00
Total.....	11.58	19.31	7.73	66.75	14.58	17.17	2.59	17.76	10.72	12.48	1.76	16.42
Other causes...	c 143.15	c 283.44	c 140.29	c 98.00	121.05	188.67	67.62	55.86	116.15	185.50	69.35	59.71
Grand total	182.16	379.64	197.48	108.41	192.54	334.07	141.53	73.51	180.34	327.59	147.25	81.65

a Included in "Other causes."

b Excess of white.

c Including deaths from cholera infantum and still-births.

TABLE e.—AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 10,000, CHARLESTON, S. C., FOR THE PERIODS 1881 TO 1884, 1885 TO 1889, AND 1890 TO 1894, BY CAUSES.

Causes.	1881 to 1884.				1885 to 1889.				1890 to 1894.			
	W'ite.	Col-ored.	Excess of colored.		W'ite.	Col-ored.	Excess of colored.		W'ite.	Col-ored.	Excess of colored.	
			Num-ber.	Per cent.			Num-ber.	Per cent.			Num-ber.	Per cent.
Consumption.	27.52	72.20	44.68	162.35	20.05	68.08	48.03	239.55	17.71	57.66	39.95	225.58
Pneumonia . . .	8.18	19.00	10.82	132.27	8.32	18.51	10.19	122.43	6.78	17.06	10.28	151.62
Total	35.70	91.20	55.50	155.46	28.37	86.59	58.22	205.22	24.49	74.72	50.23	205.10
Cholera infan- tum	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	7.90	15.43	7.53	95.32	7.20	9.63	2.43	33.75
Convulsions. . .	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	3.48	13.01	9.53	273.85	4.30	13.60	9.30	216.28
Total	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	11.38	28.44	17.06	149.91	11.50	23.23	11.73	102.00
Typhoid fever	8.83	11.36	2.53	28.65	4.93	8.38	3.45	69.98	4.38	6.68	2.30	52.51
Malarial fever	6.22	6.50	.28	4.50	2.55	6.04	3.49	136.86	3.06	6.23	3.17	103.59
Diarrhea	b 4.78	b 11.72	b 6.94	b 145.19	5.43	11.60	6.17	113.63	3.56	9.38	5.82	163.48
Diphtheria . . .	6.96	2.59	c 4.37	c 168.73	4.25	1.21	c 3.04	c 251.24	.83	.25	c .58	c 232.00
Total	d 26.79	d 32.17	d 5.38	d 20.08	17.16	27.23	10.07	58.68	11.83	22.54	10.71	90.53
Scrofula	b .30	b 2.95	b 2.65	b 883.33	.43	6.98	6.55	1,523.26	16	2.14	1.98	1,237.50
Syphilis . . . . .	.44	2.13	1.69	384.09	.59	6.10	5.51	933.90	83	3.15	2.32	279.52
Total	e .74	e 5.08	e 4.34	e 586.49	1.02	13.08	12.06	1182.35	.99	5.29	4.30	434.34
Other causes . .	f 190.81	f 312.36	f 121.55	f 63.70	165.03	312.05	147.02	89.09	169.96	288.55	118.59	69.78
Grand total	254.04	440.81	186.77	73.52	222.96	467.39	244.43	109.63	218.77	414.33	195.56	89.39

a Included in "Other causes."

b Not including deaths in 1884.

c Excess of white.

d Not including deaths from diarrhea in 1884.

e Not including deaths from scrofula in 1884.

f Including deaths from cholera infantum and convulsions, and from diarrhœa and scrofula in 1884.

The table following shows for each of the ten years from 1884 to 1893 the total and the illegitimate births and the birth rate per 1,000 of total population of both white and colored; also the average births and birth rates per 1,000 for the two five-year periods 1884 to 1888 and 1889 to 1893:

TABLE f.—TOTAL AND ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 OF TOTAL POPULATION, BALTIMORE, MD., 1884 TO 1893.

Year.	Total births.		Births per 1,000.				Illegitimate births.		Illegitimate births per 1000.			
	White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	Excess of white.		White.	Colored.	White.	Colored.	Excess of colored.	
					Num-ber	Per cent.					Num-ber.	Per cent.
1884	6,899	1,136	22.18	19.31	2 87	14.86	124	173	0.40	2.94	2 54	635 0
1885	6,632	1,108	20.74	18.41	2 33	12.66	112	171	.35	2.84	2 49	711.4
1886	6,481	1,213	19.72	19.70	.02	.10	103	155	.31	2.52	2 21	712.9
1887	7,765	1,262	22.98	20.04	2.94	14.67	146	224	.43	3.56	3 13	727.9
1888	7,500	1,225	21.59	19.04	2.55	13.39	134	220	.39	3.42	3.03	776.9
Average	7,055	1,189	21.45	19.31	2.14	11.09	124	189	.38	3.06	2.68	714.6
1889	8,102	1,263	22.69	19.19	3.50	18.24	156	205	.44	3.12	2.68	609.1
1890	8,226	1,172	22.41	17.47	4.94	28.28	180	229	.49	3.41	2.92	595.9
1891	8,238	1,101	21.83	16.04	5.79	36.10	224	246	.59	3.58	2.99	506.8
1892	8,087	1,347	20.84	19.18	1.66	8.65	261	359	.67	5.11	4.44	662.7
1893	7,914	1,221	19.84	17.00	2.84	16.71	224	387	.56	5.39	4.83	862.5
Average	8,113	1,221	21.48	17.76	3.72	20.93	209	285	.55	4.15	3.60	650.4

Of total births, the excess of births per 1,000 of population is seen to be in favor of the whites. For the first five-year period this excess is 2.14, the percentage of excess being 11.09; for the second five-year period the excess is 3.72, the percentage of excess being 20.93.

The illegitimate births for the colored population show a very large excess over the illegitimate births for the white. While there is an increase in the excess of colored birth rate from 2.68 in the first five-year period to 3.60 in the second, the per cent of excess shows a decrease from 714.6 in the first period to 650.4 in the second.

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